Est. 1841 | YORK ST JOHN UNIVERSITY

Lancaster, David ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1691-4320 (2015) Strike - for quintet. [Composition]

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Strike

For flute, bass clarinet, violin, cello and piano

David Lancaster

Strike (*Stachka*) was the first full-length feature film by Sergei Eisenstein, made in 1925.

The film depicts a strike in 1903 by the workers of a factory in pre-revolutionary Russia, and their subsequent suppression. The film is particularly remembered today for a vivid climactic sequence near the end in which the violent conclusion of the strike is cross-cut with footage of cattle being slaughtered. Eisenstein's influential essay, '*Montage of Attractions*' (in which he first outlines the concept of montage in film making) was written between Strike's production and its premiere; in this he describes the art and technique of motion picture editing in which contrasting shots or sequences are alternated or immediately juxtaposed to affect emotional or intellectual responses, usually resulting in a quickening of pace or a heightening of dramatic tension in the film.

Much of the film is devoted to images of machines and the repetitive toil of heavy industry. Another theme is collectivism in opposition to individualism, which is reflected in the scoring of my piece in that the five instrumentalists play for almost the whole duration with few significant rests or solo passages. Although this music begins with an exposed passage for piccolo it is almost entirely a collective effort where none of the protagonists gain prominence for an extended period.

The music is in three main parts: an opening section which contrasts the individual against the collective and explores different types of transition, a softly pulsing second inner part, and an extended 'montage' leading to a coda which offers a 'flashback' of the opening.

'Strike' was composed in 2014 (the thirtieth anniversary of the miners' strike in the UK), and was first performed by AMGA (Hong Kong) and Dark Inventions (York).

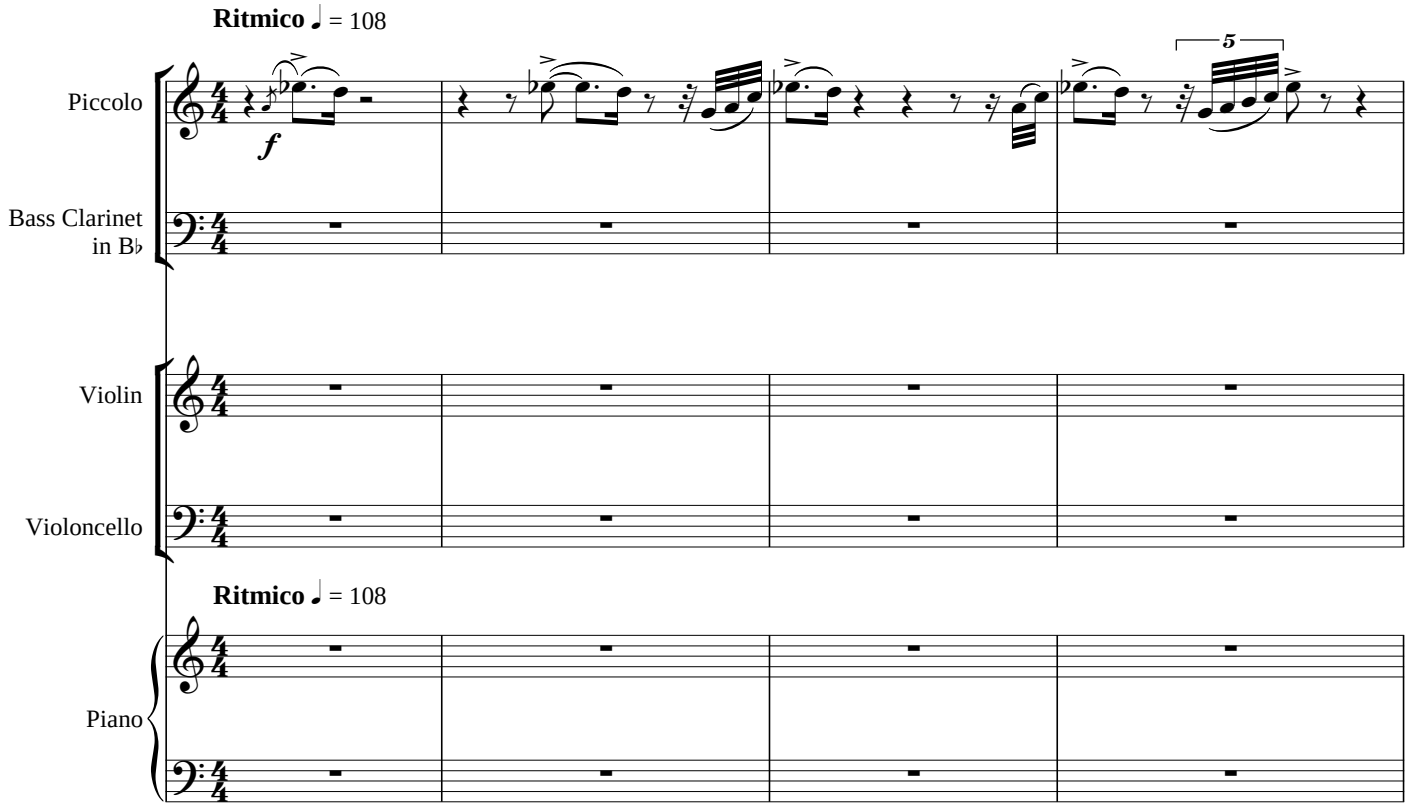
Flute (+picc.)
Bass clarinet
Violin
Cello
Piano

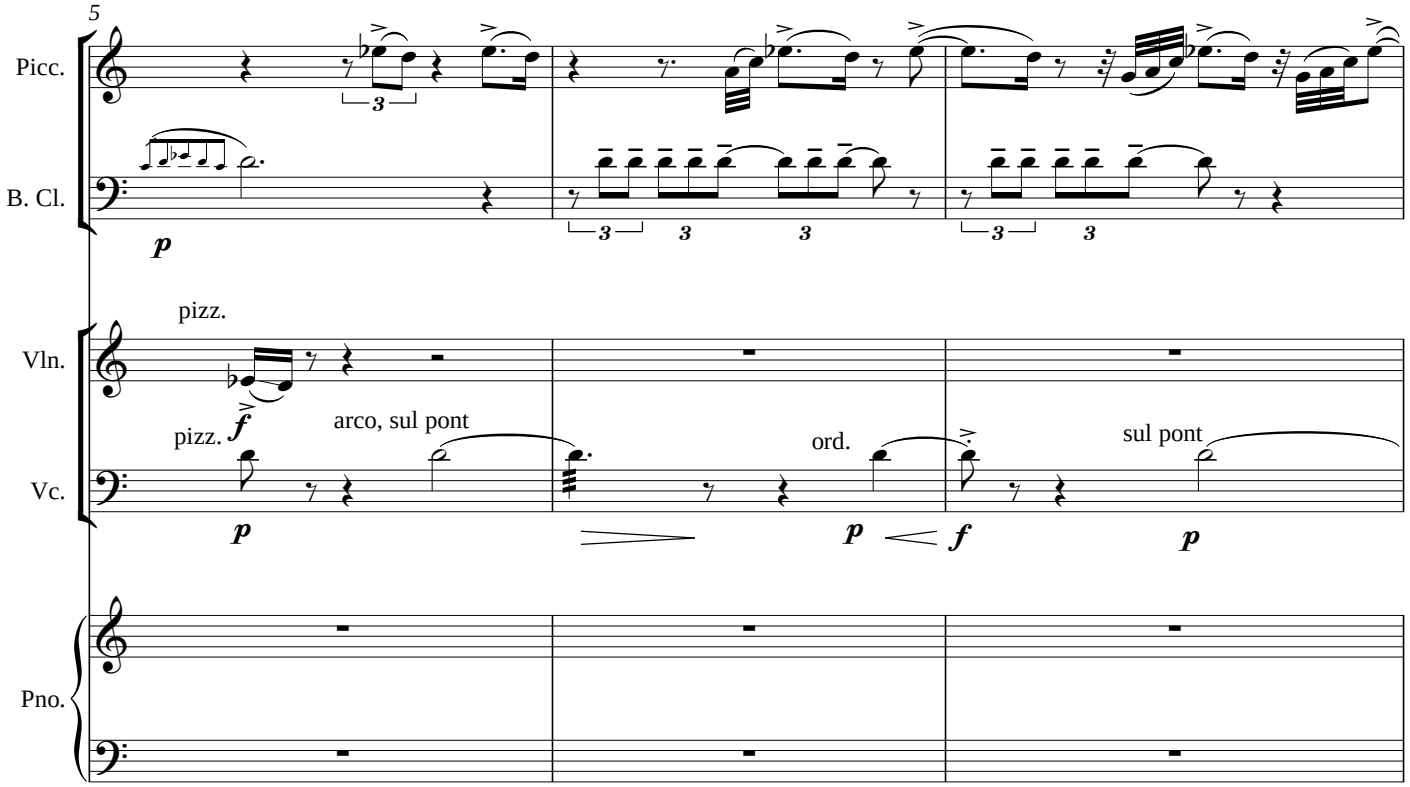
Duration: 10'30"

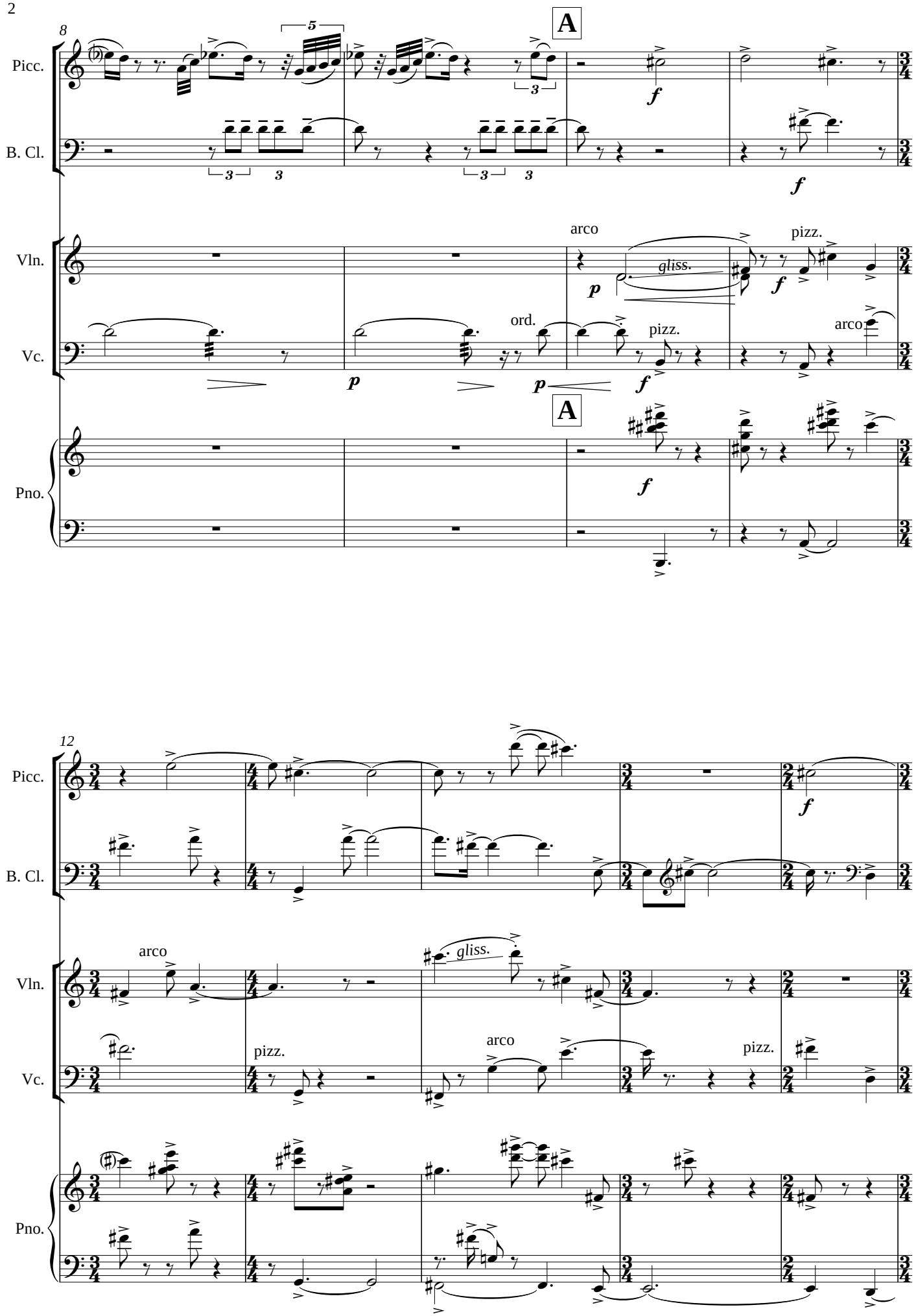
Strike

Score in C

David Lancaster



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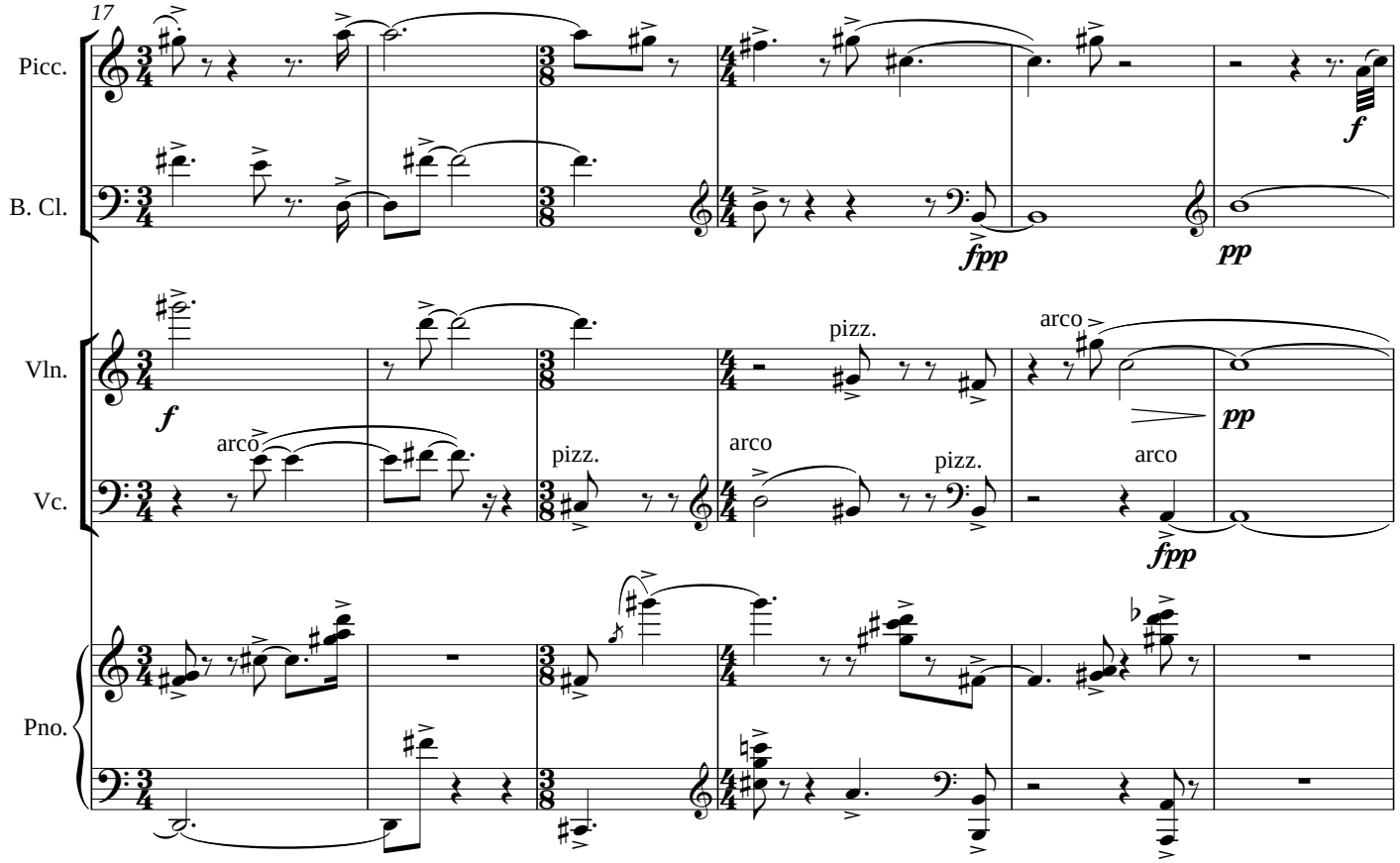
A
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
arco
gliss.
pizz.
ord.
12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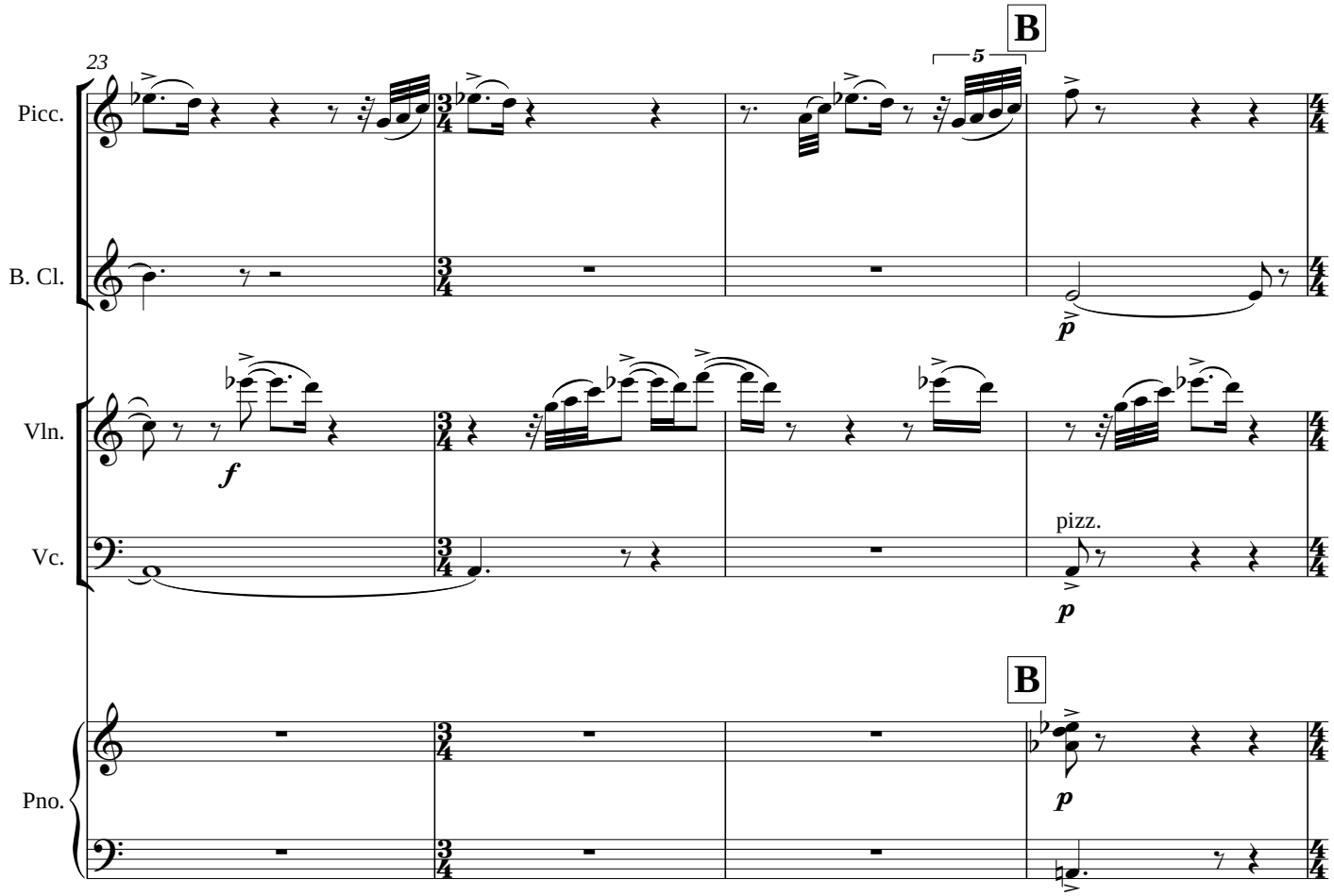
pizz.
arco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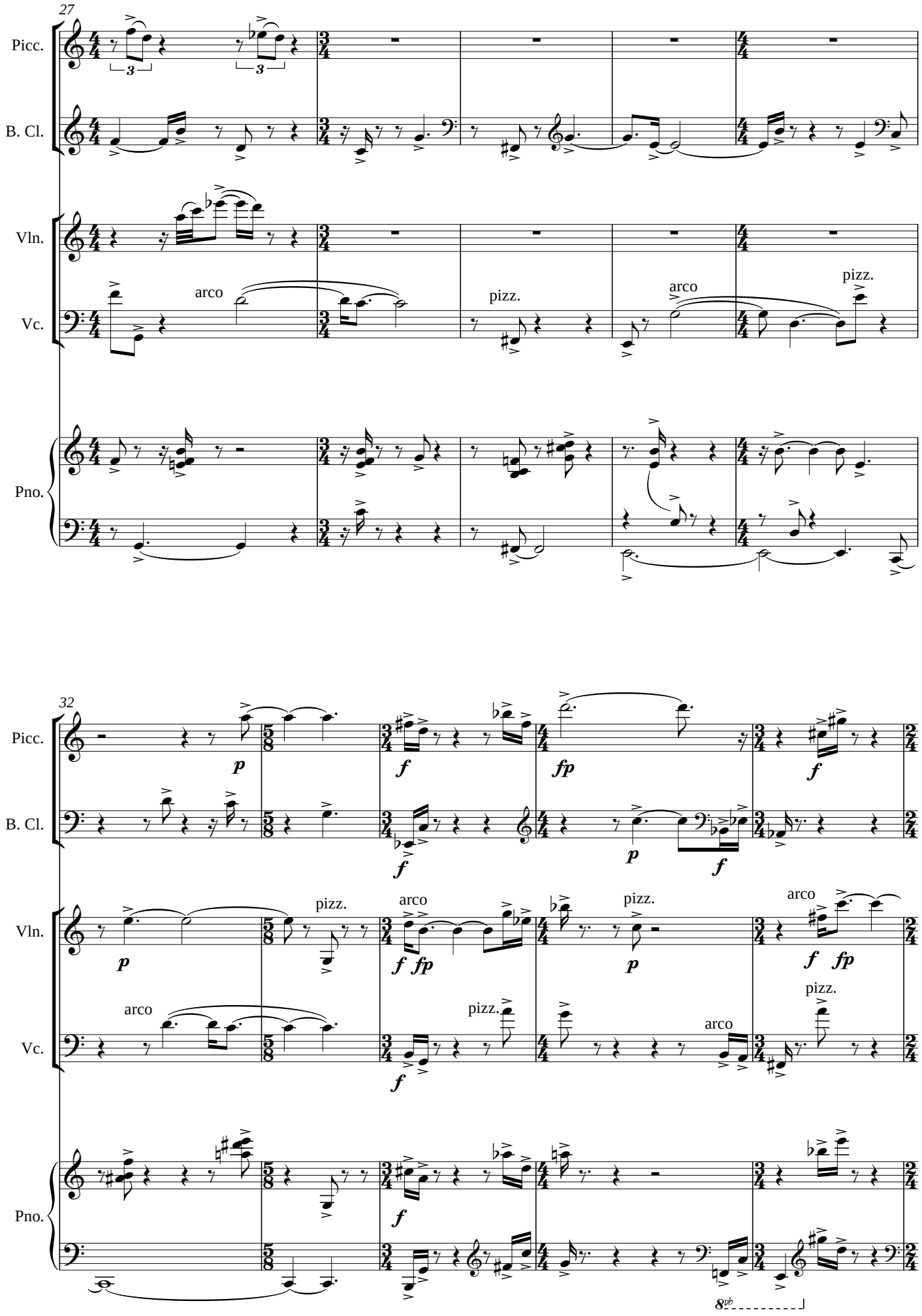
f
p
pizz.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Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
arco
pizz.
arco
pizz.
32
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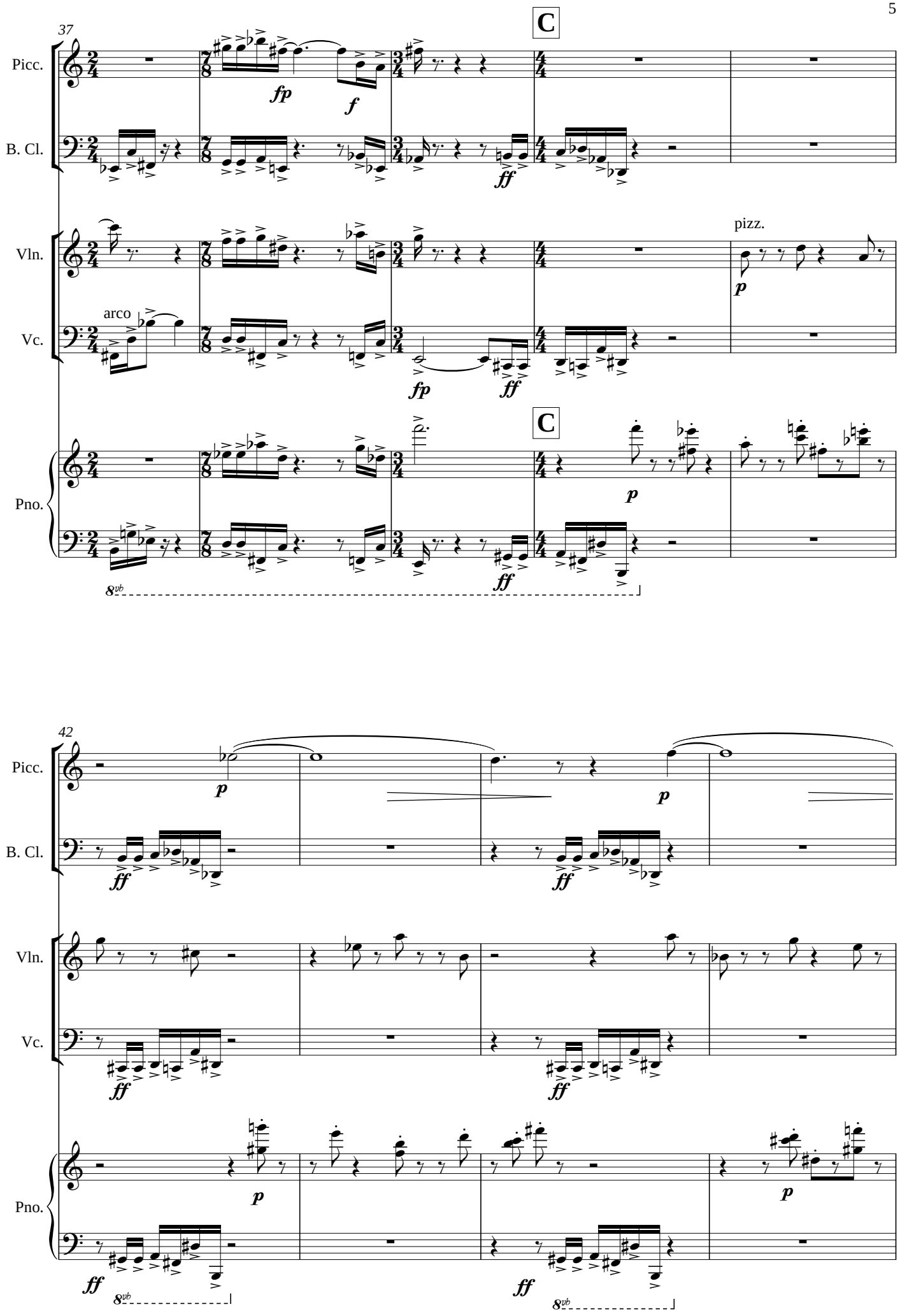
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
p
f
fp
f
p
f
pizz.
arco
f fp
p
f fp
arco
pizz.
arco
f
pizz.
arco
pizz.
f
8vb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C
Picc.
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Vln.
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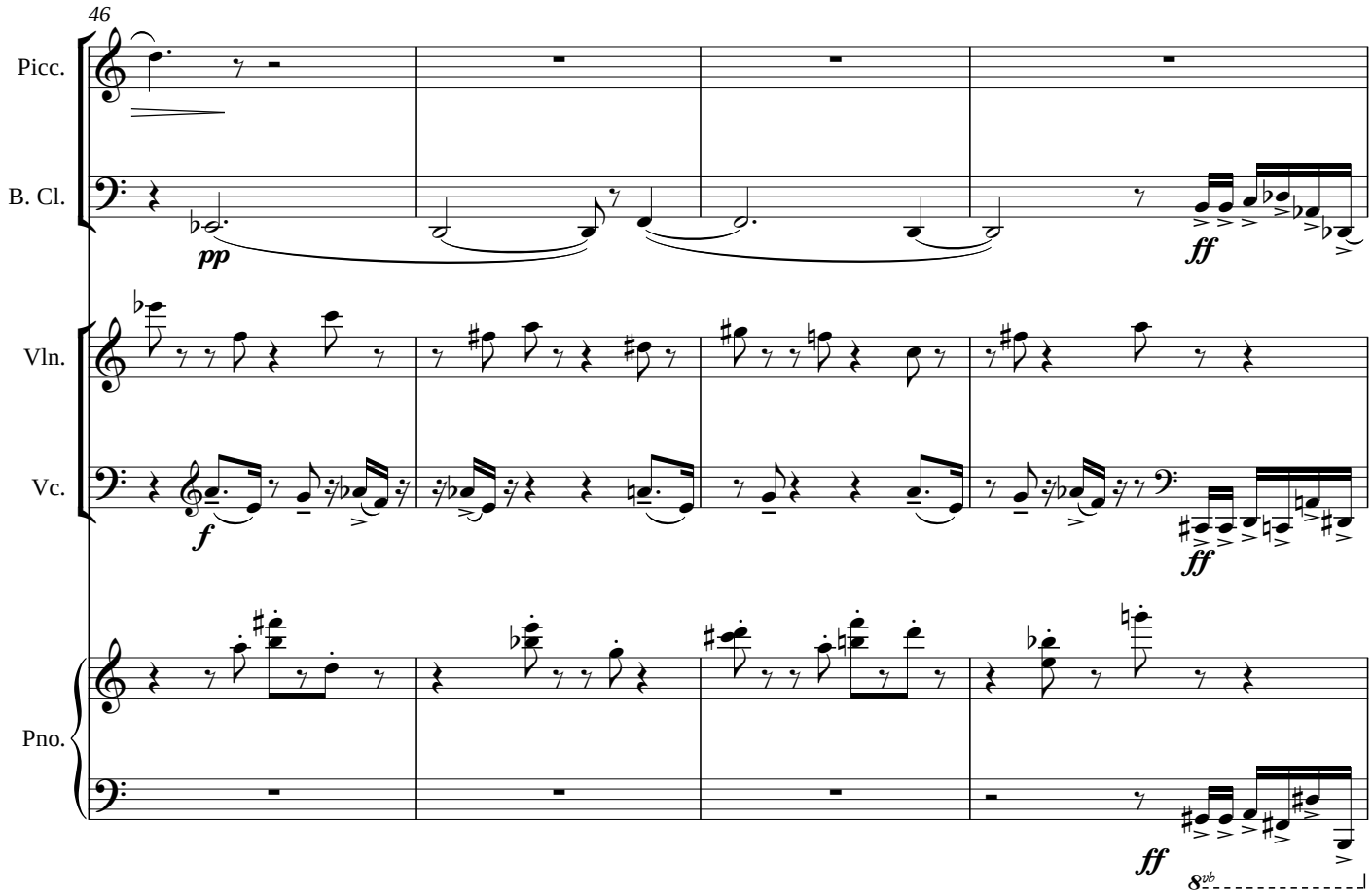
Pno.
fp
f
ff
pizz.
arco
p
8vb
42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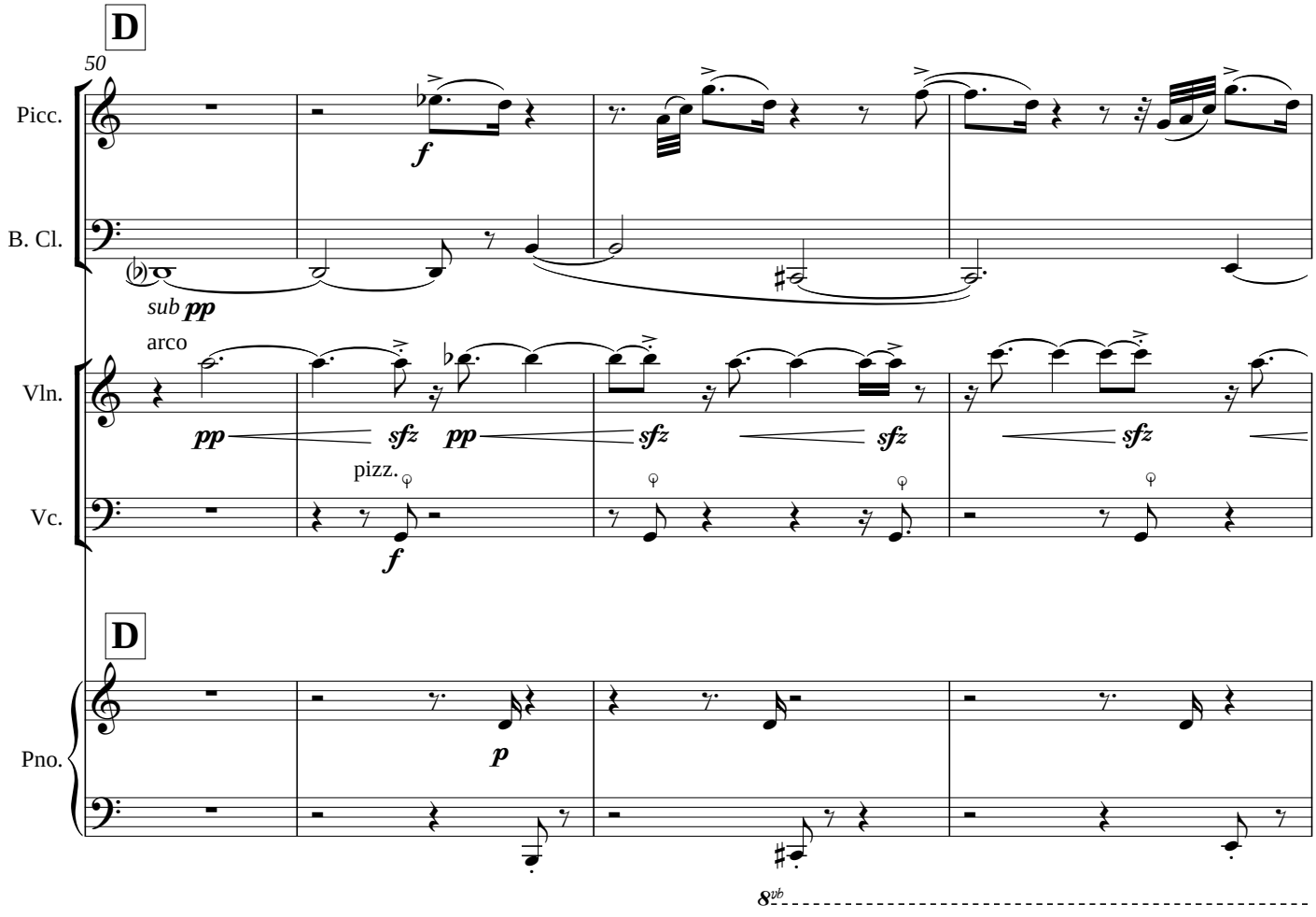
ff
f
ff
ff
8vb


D
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B. Cl.
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sub pp
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pp
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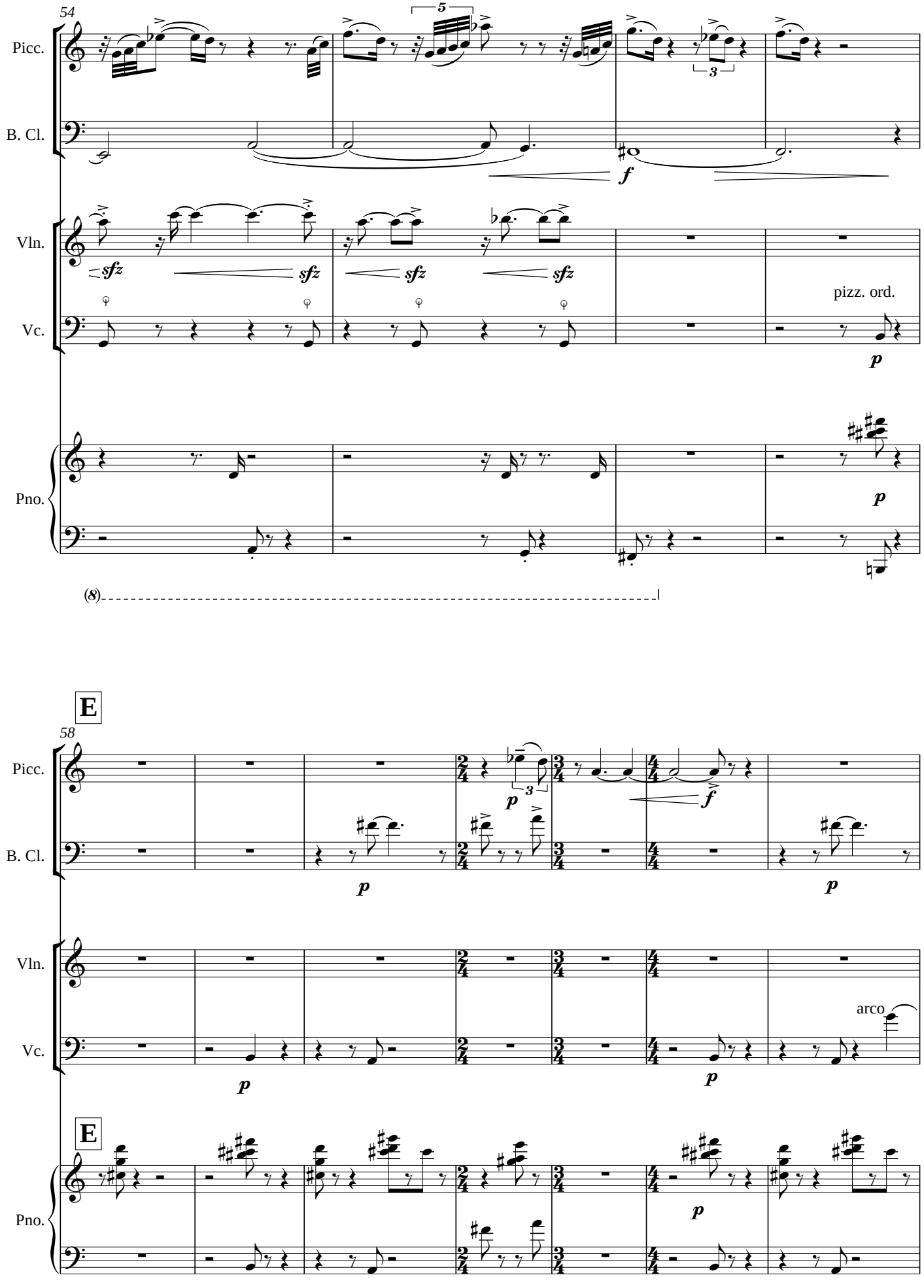
sfz
sfz
pizz.
f
D
p
8vb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Picc.
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Pno.
5
3
f
sfz
sfz
sfz
sfz
pizz. ord.
p
p
(8)
E
58
Picc.
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p
3
f
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p
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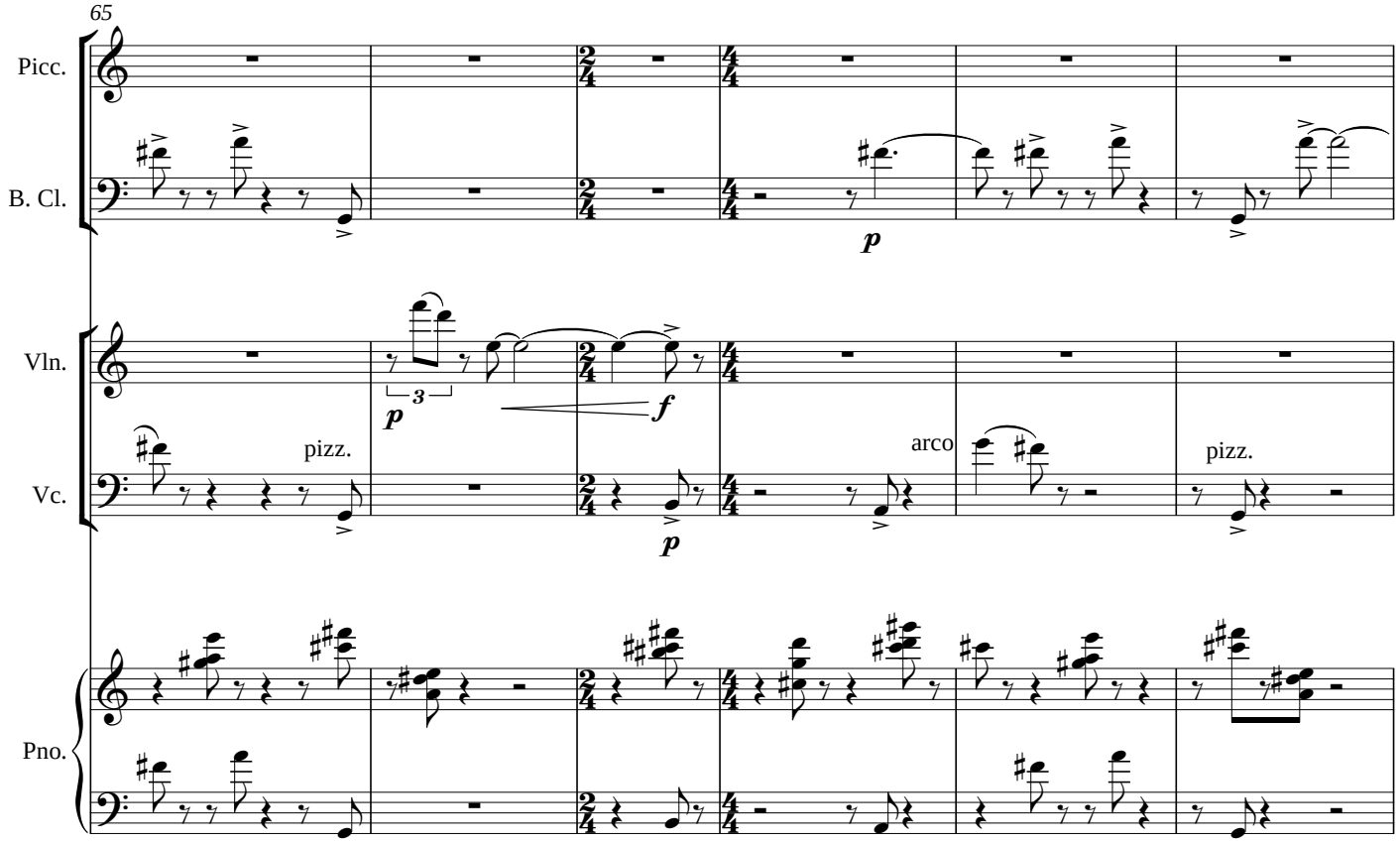
p
E
p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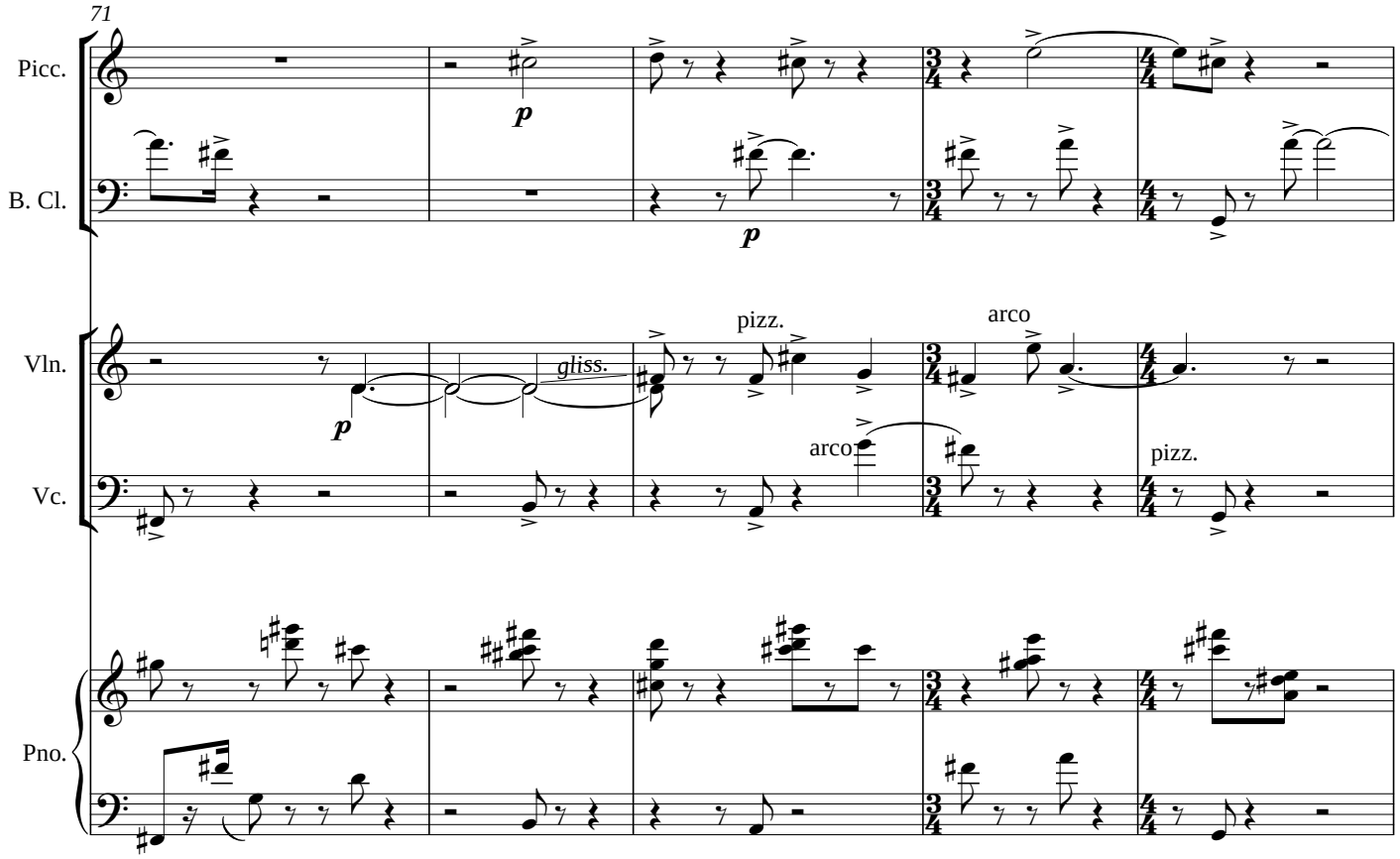
pizz.
p
f
3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Pno.
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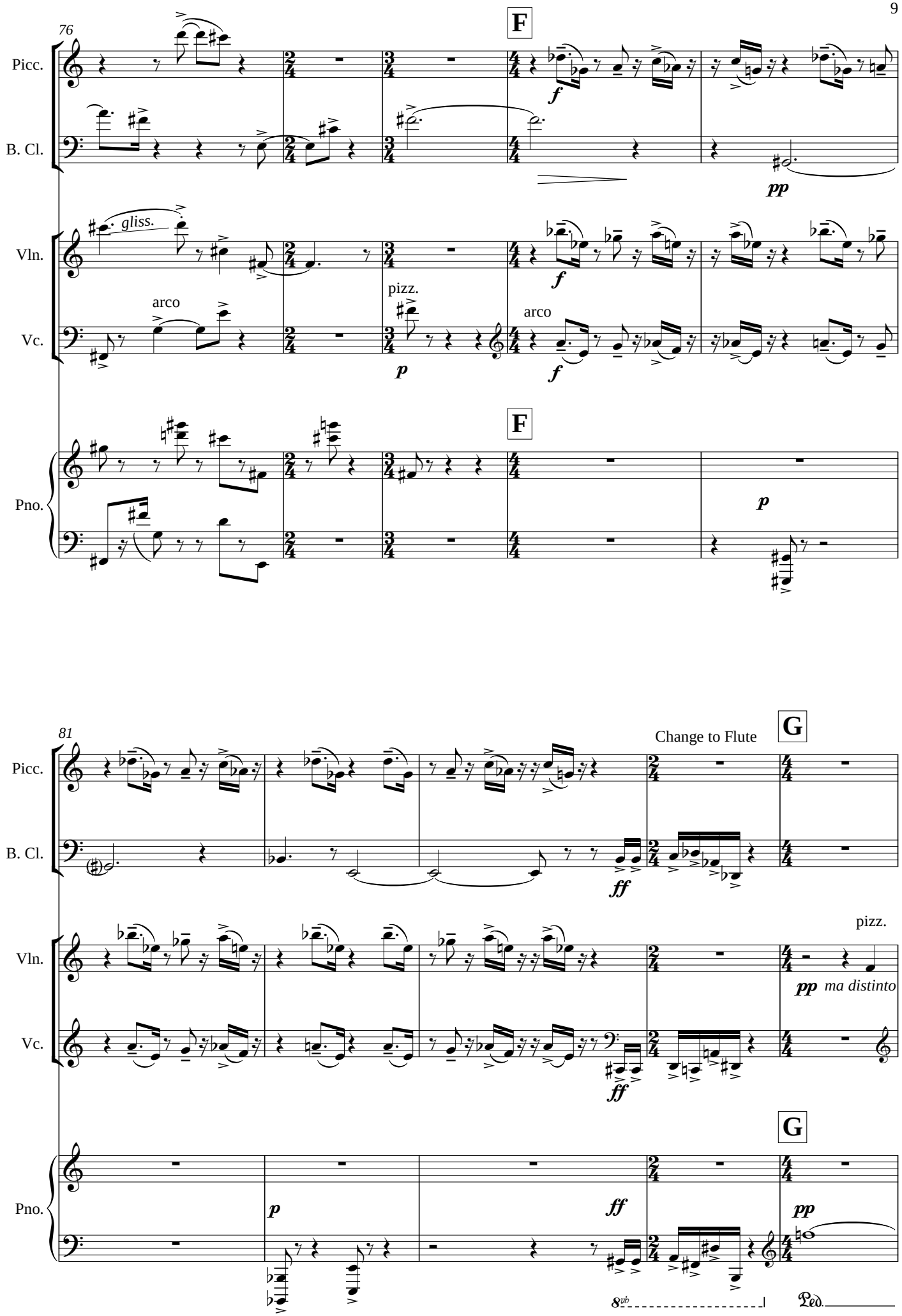
pizz.
arco
arco
pizz.
p


76
F
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
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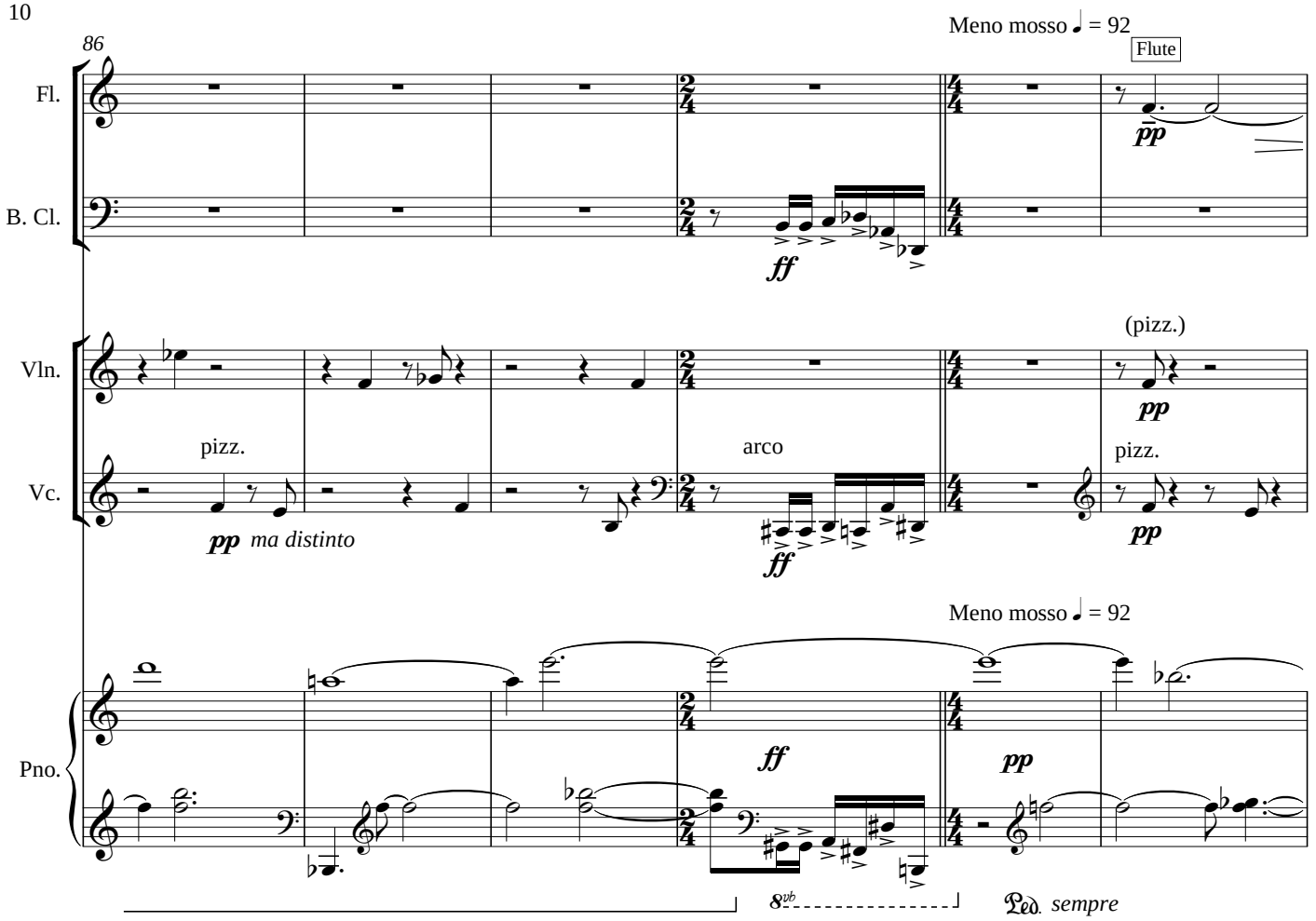
gliss.
arco
pizz.
arco
81
G
Change to Flute
pizz.
ma distinto
8vb
Ped.


86
Meno mosso ♩ = 92
Flute
Fl.
B. Cl.
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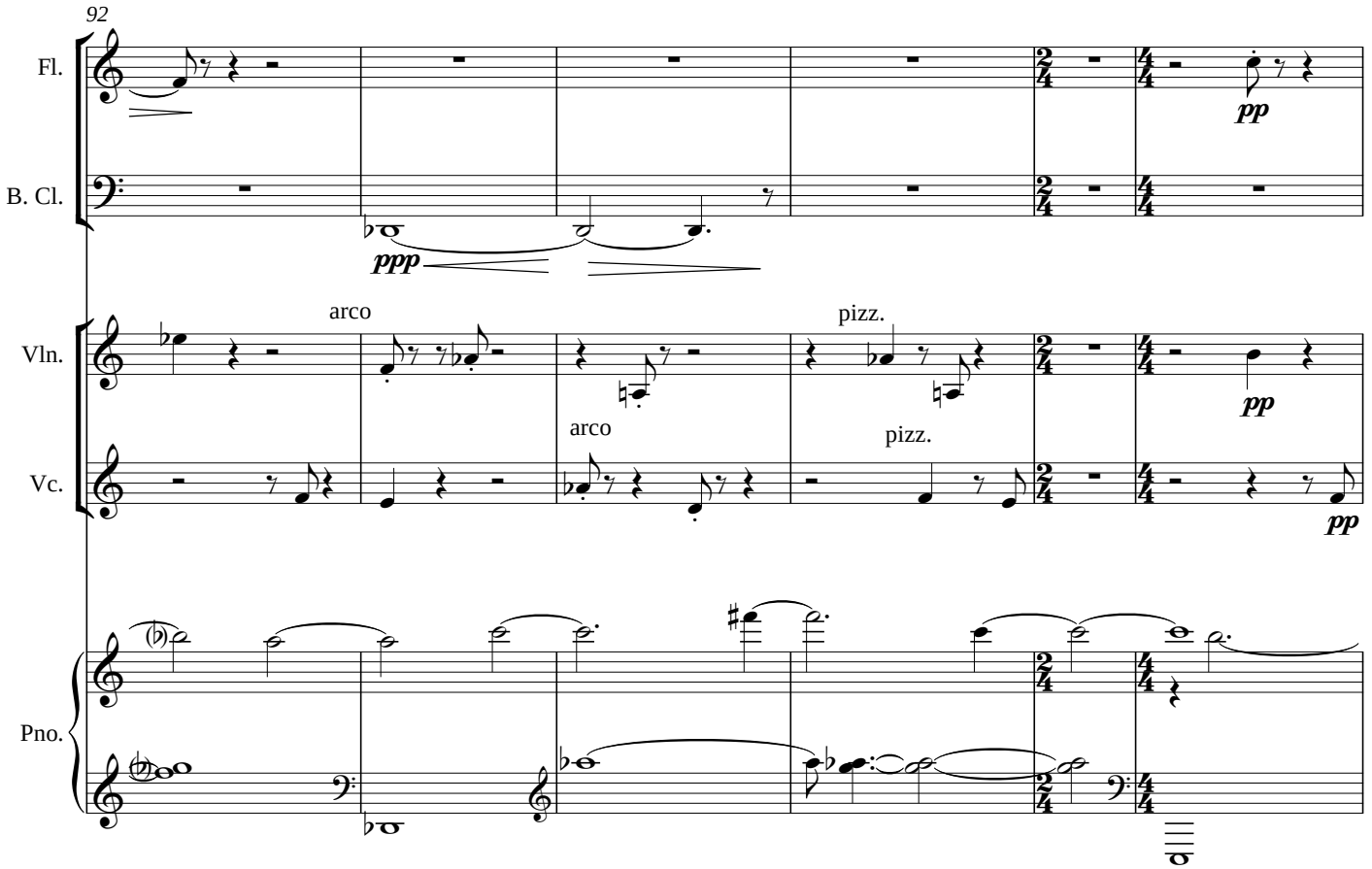
(pizz.)
pp ma distinto
ff
pp
Meno mosso ♩ = 92
8vb
Ped. sempre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Fl.
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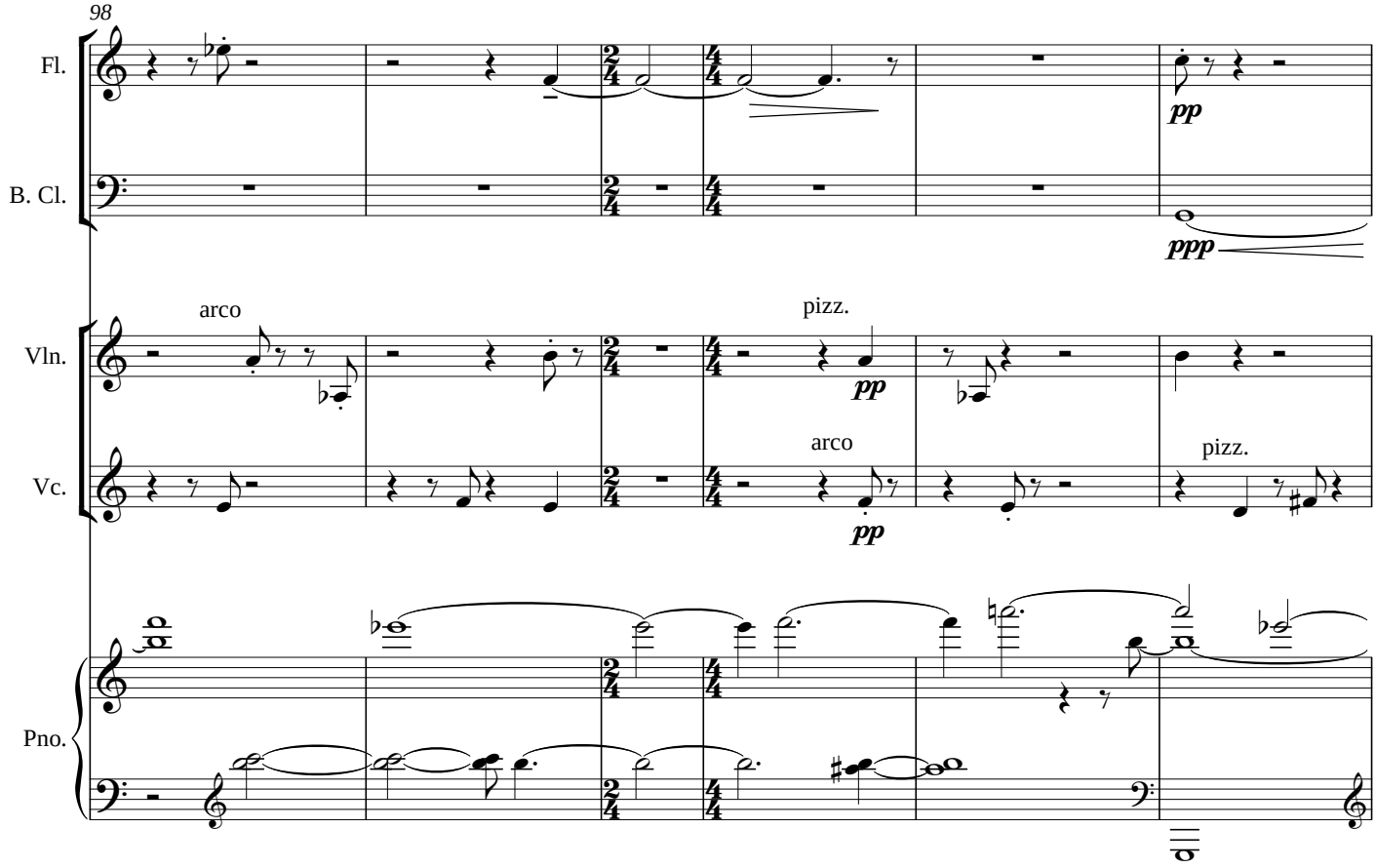
ppp
pp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Fl.
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arco
pizz.
arco
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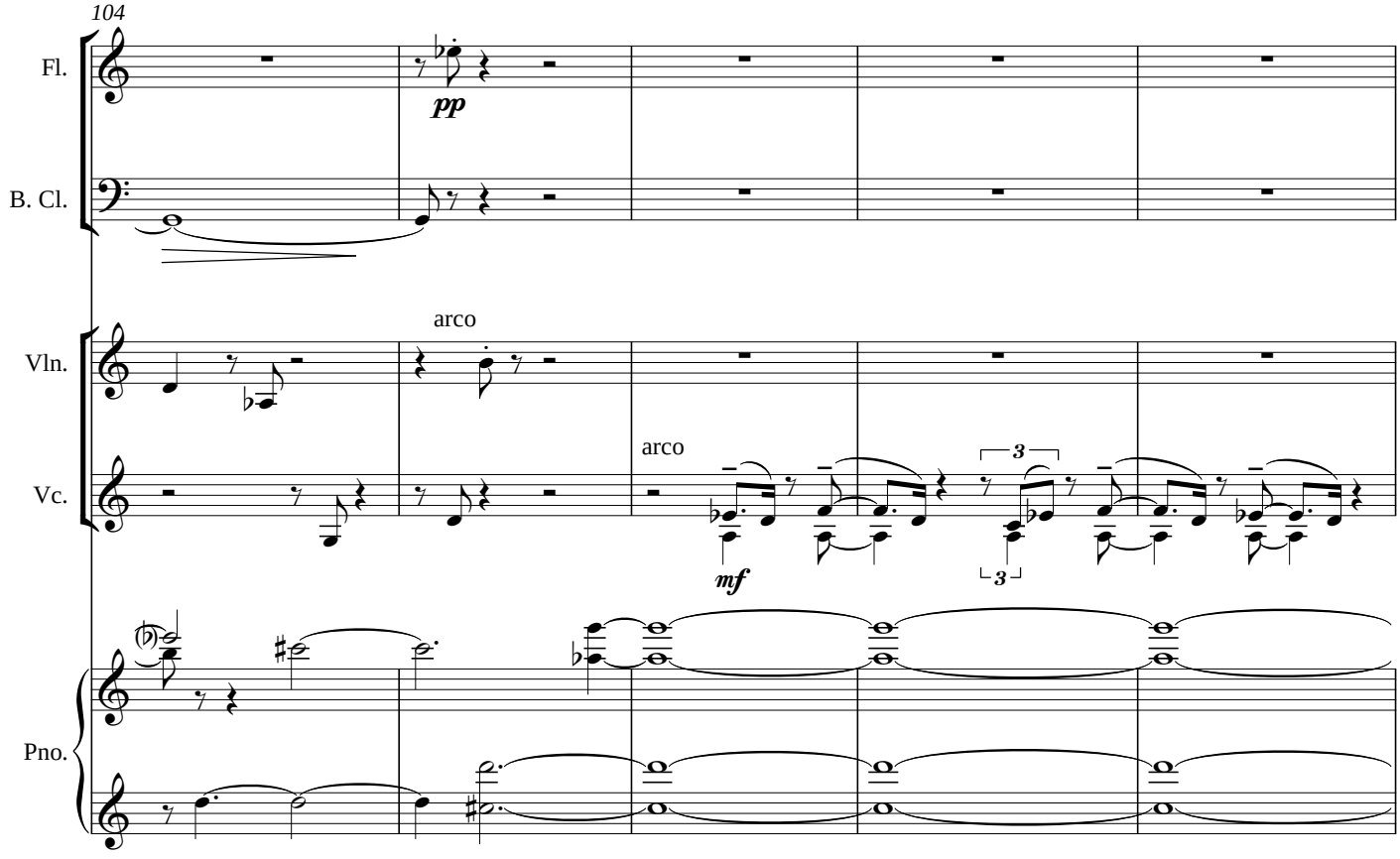
pp
pp
pp
ppp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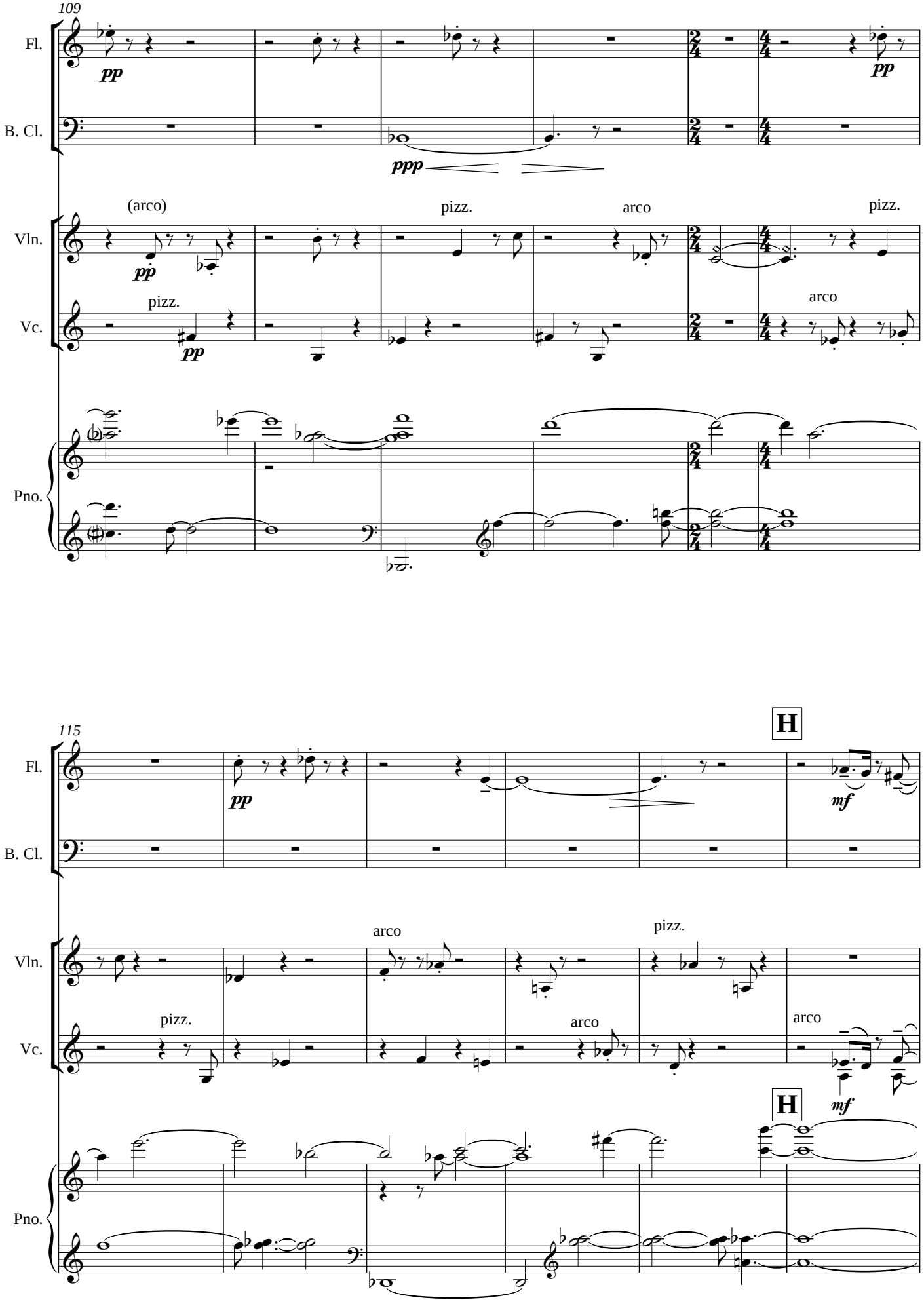
Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
arco
arco
pp
mf
3
3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Fl.
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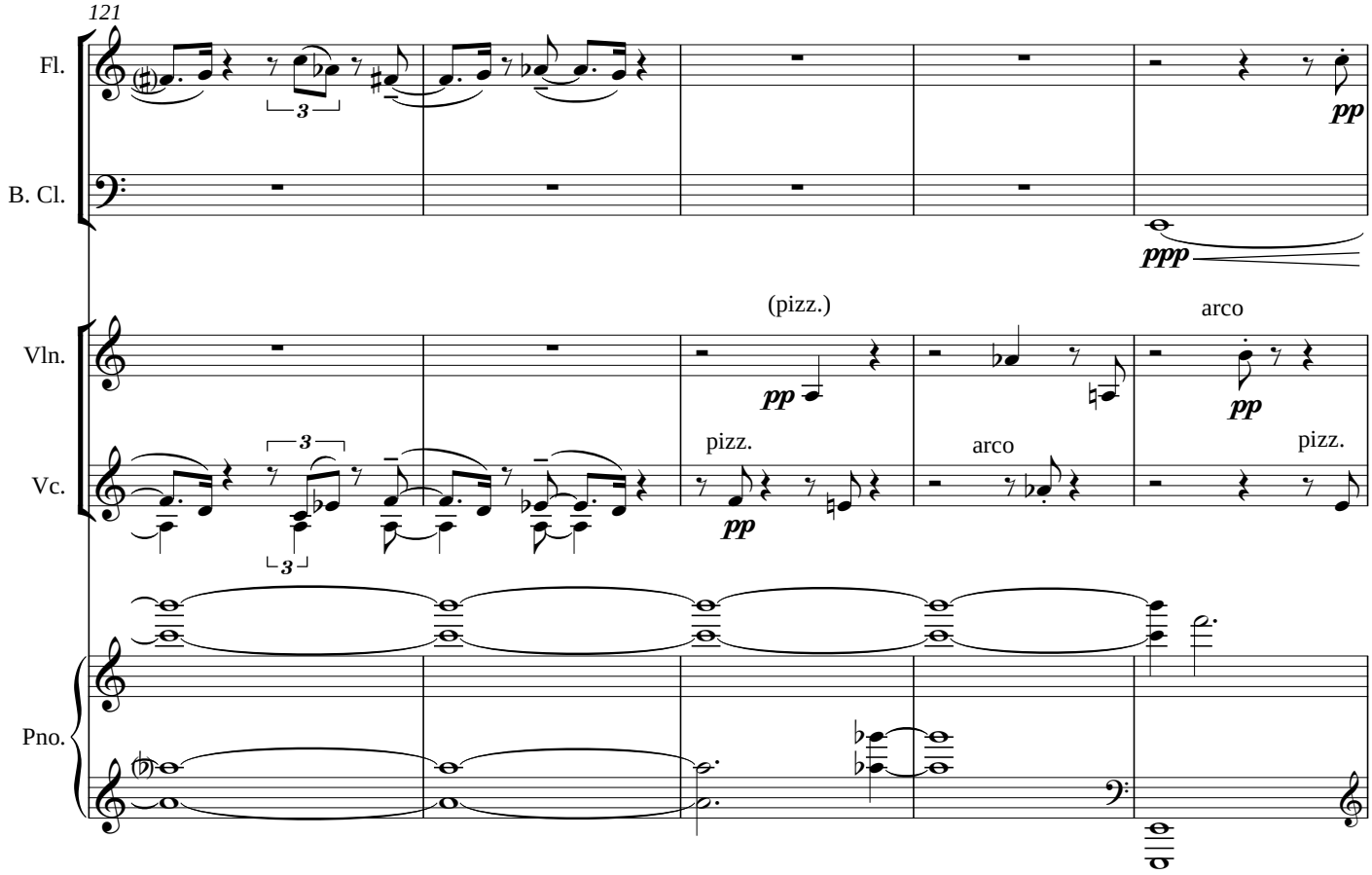
pp
ppp
(arco)
pizz.
arco
pizz.
115
H
mf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pizz.
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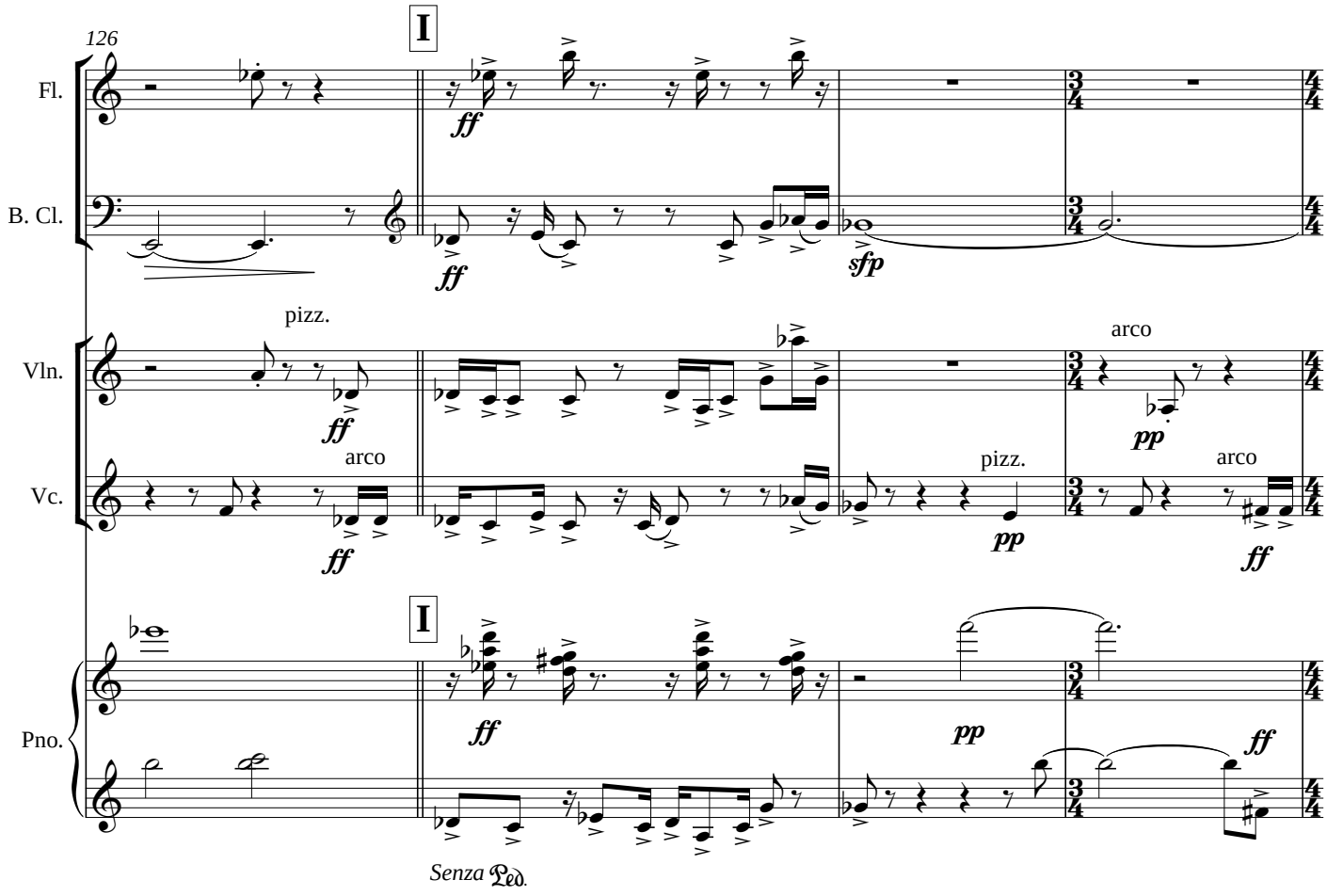
pp
ppp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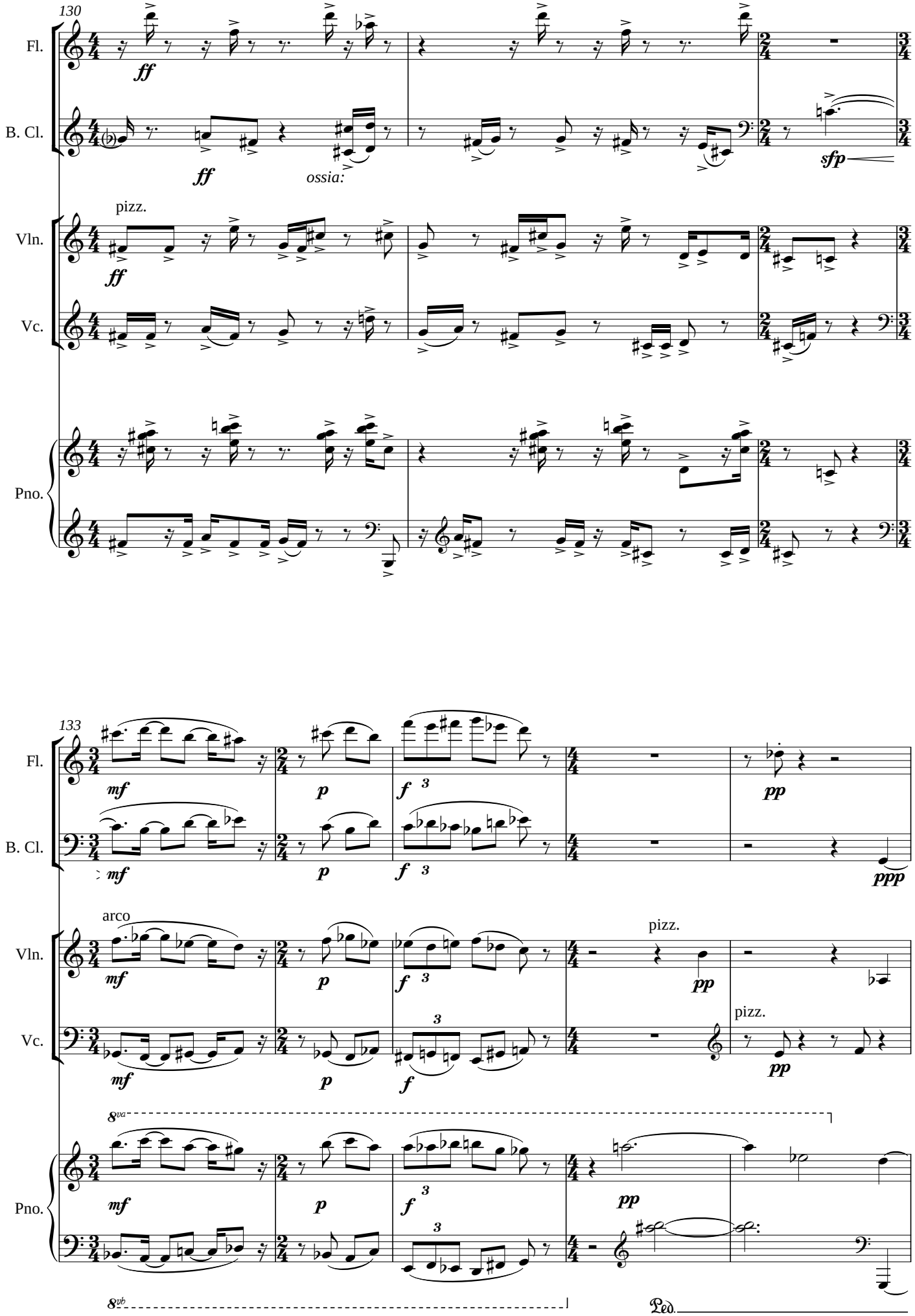
sfp
pp
Senza Ped.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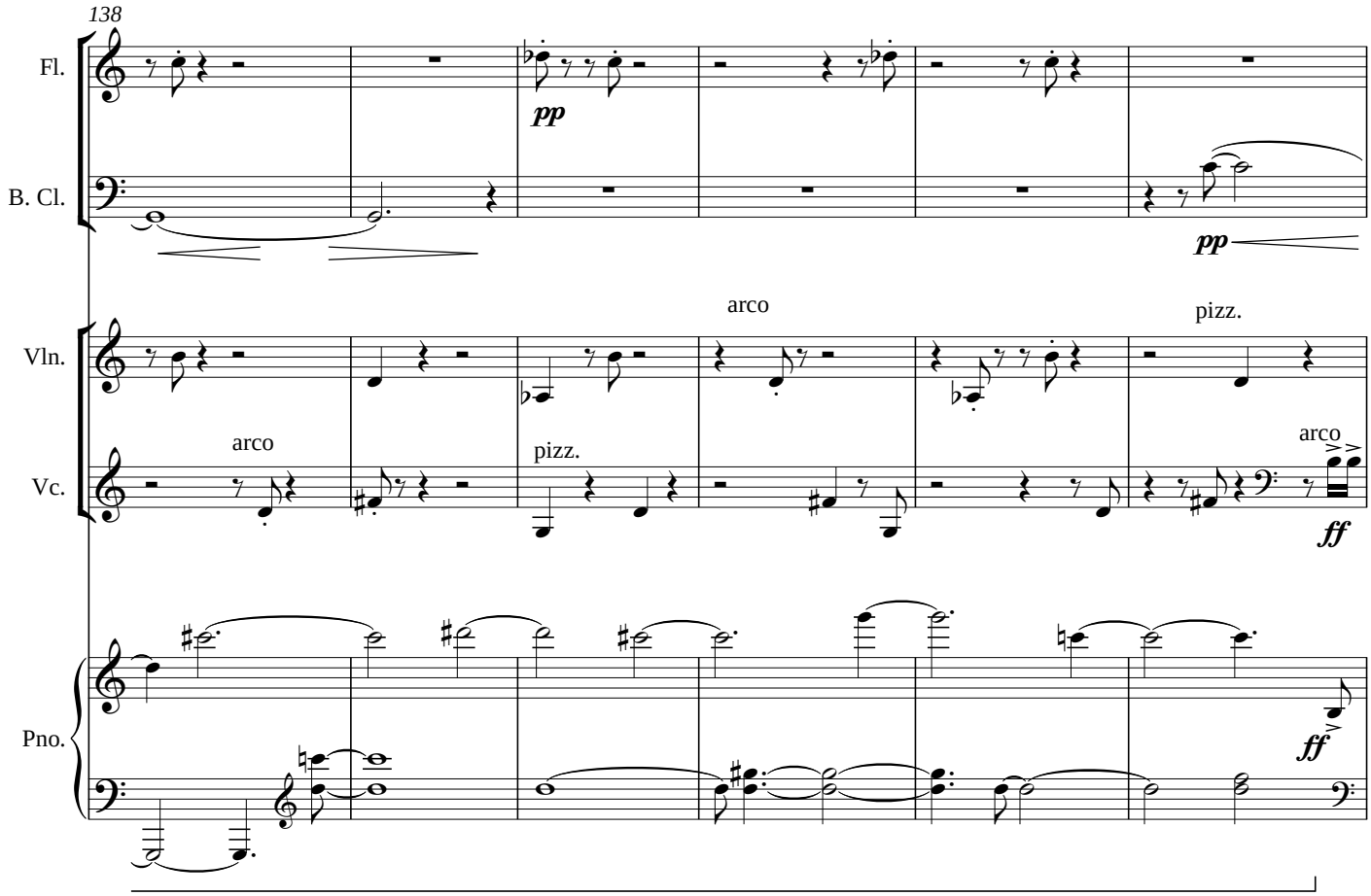
ppp
arco
8va
8vb
Ped.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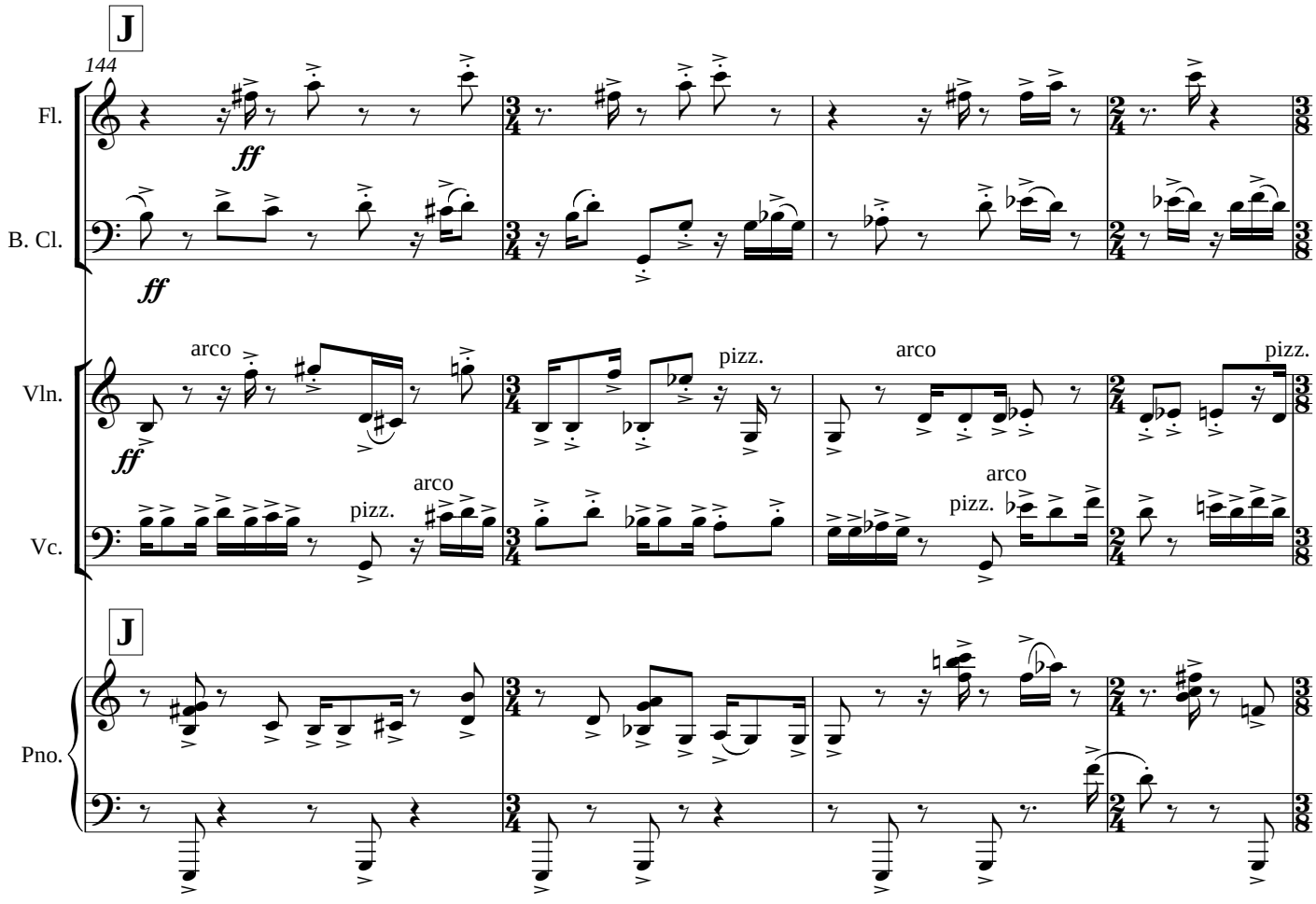
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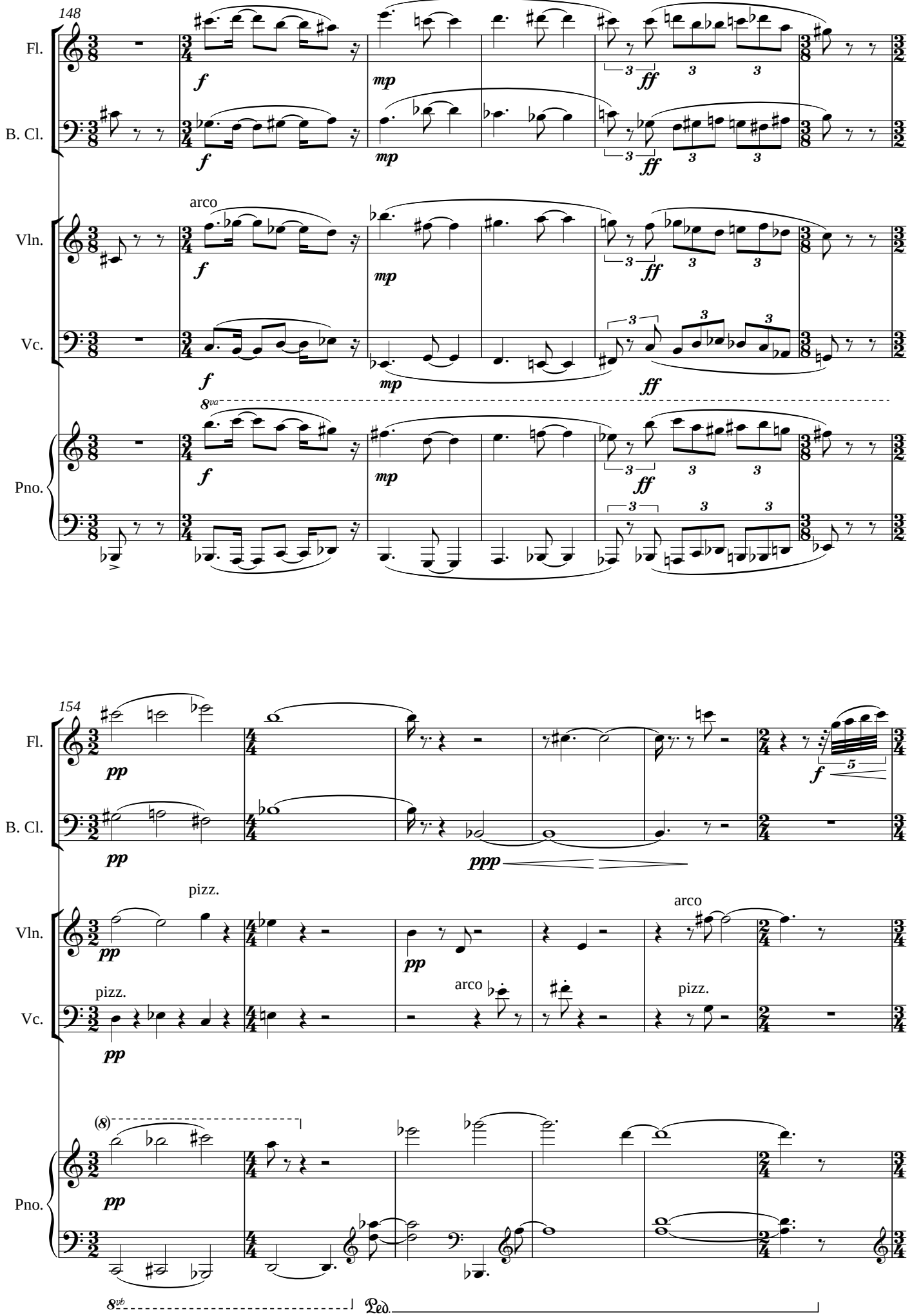
pizz.
Senza Ped.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Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
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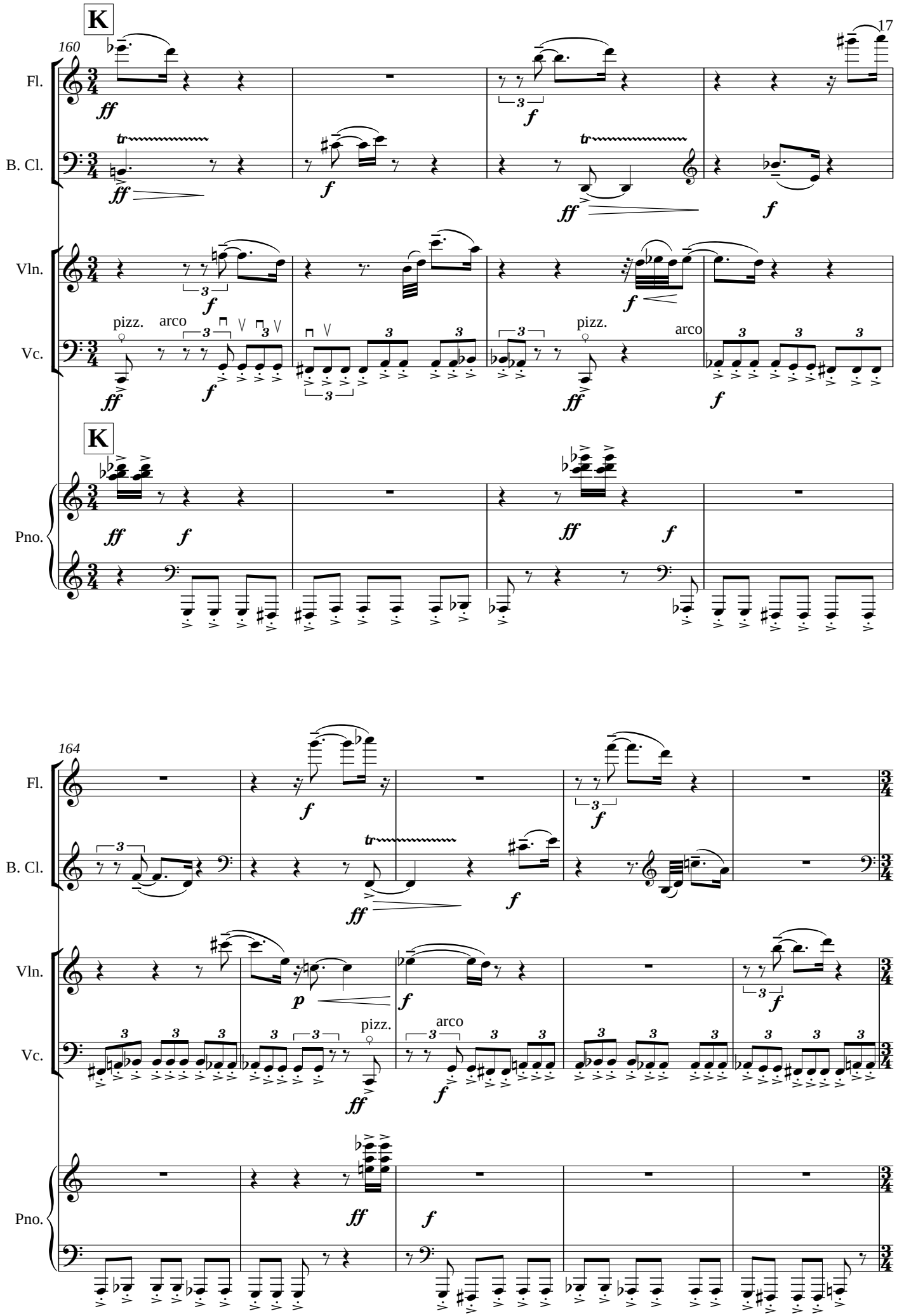
f
mp
ff
8va
154
pp
ppp
pizz.
arco
(8)
8vb
Ped.


K
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Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pizz.
arco
K
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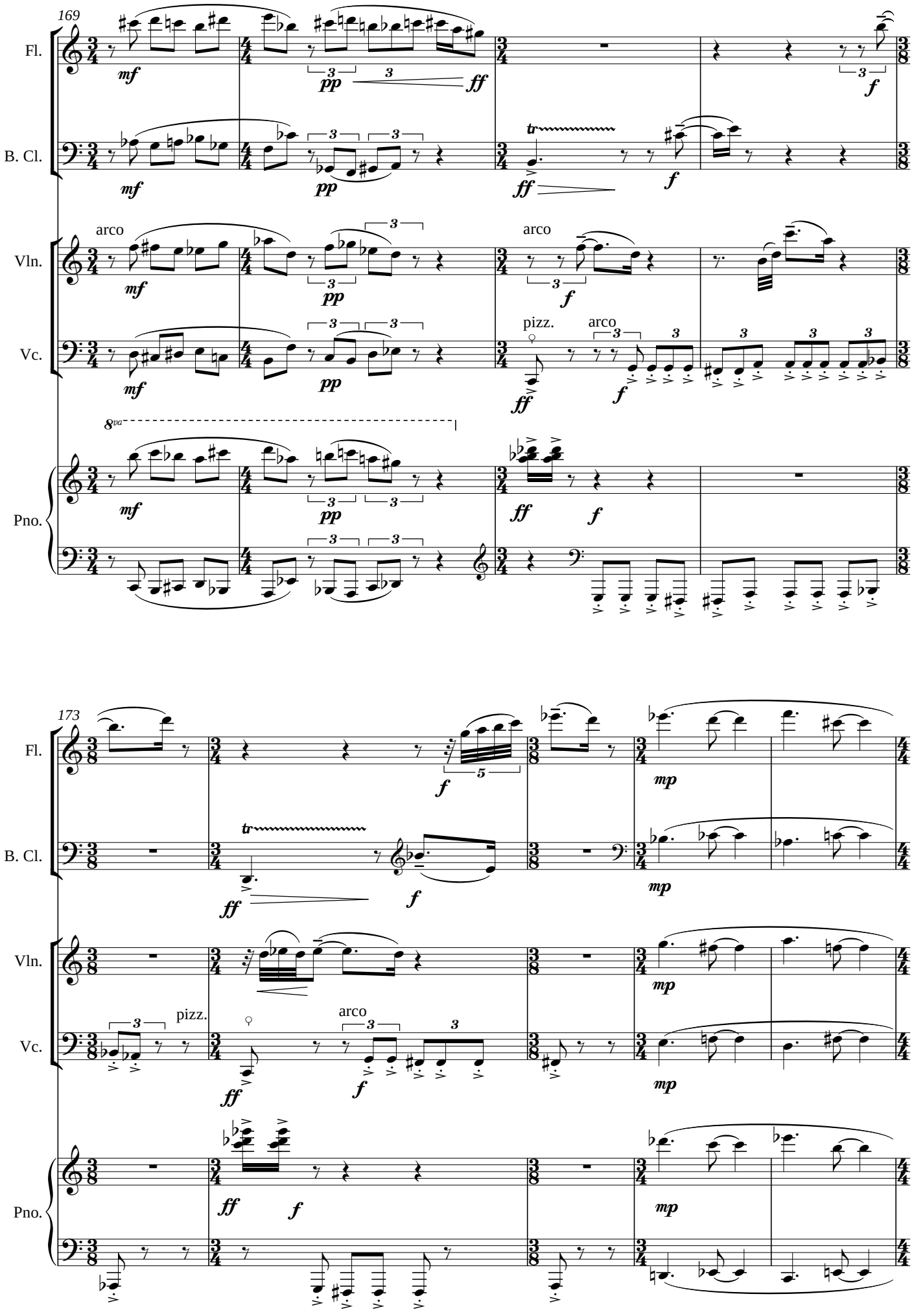
pizz.
arco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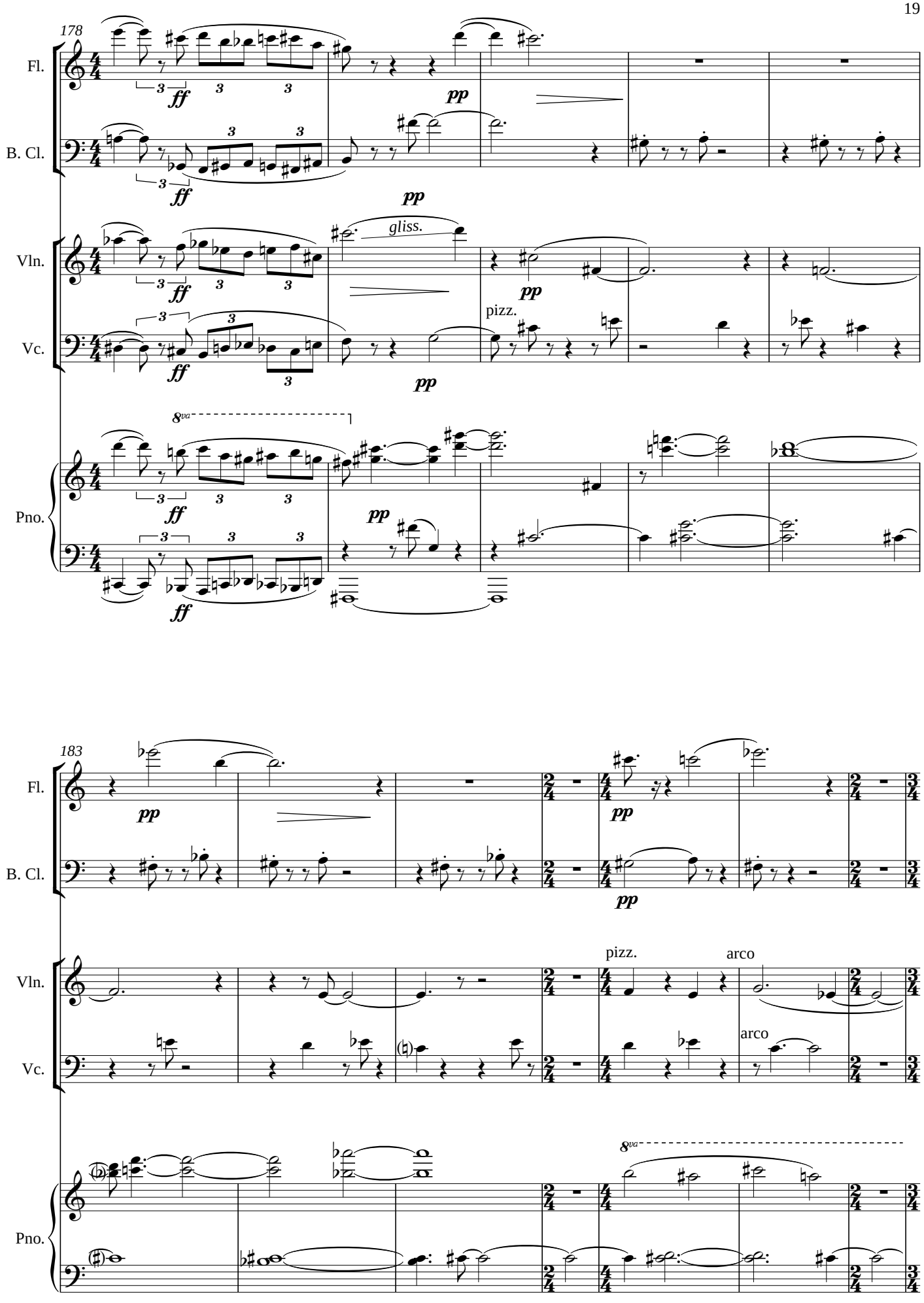
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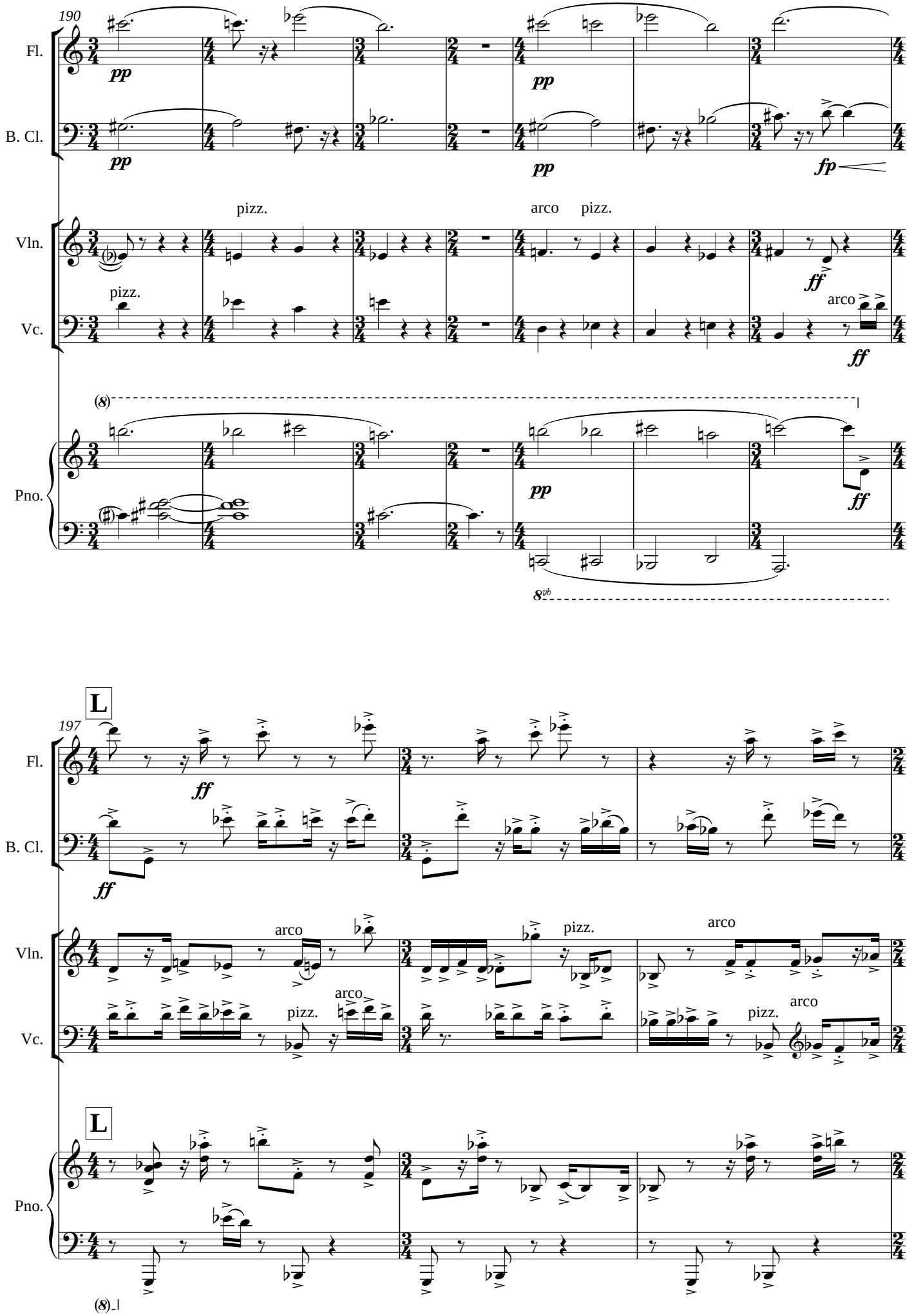
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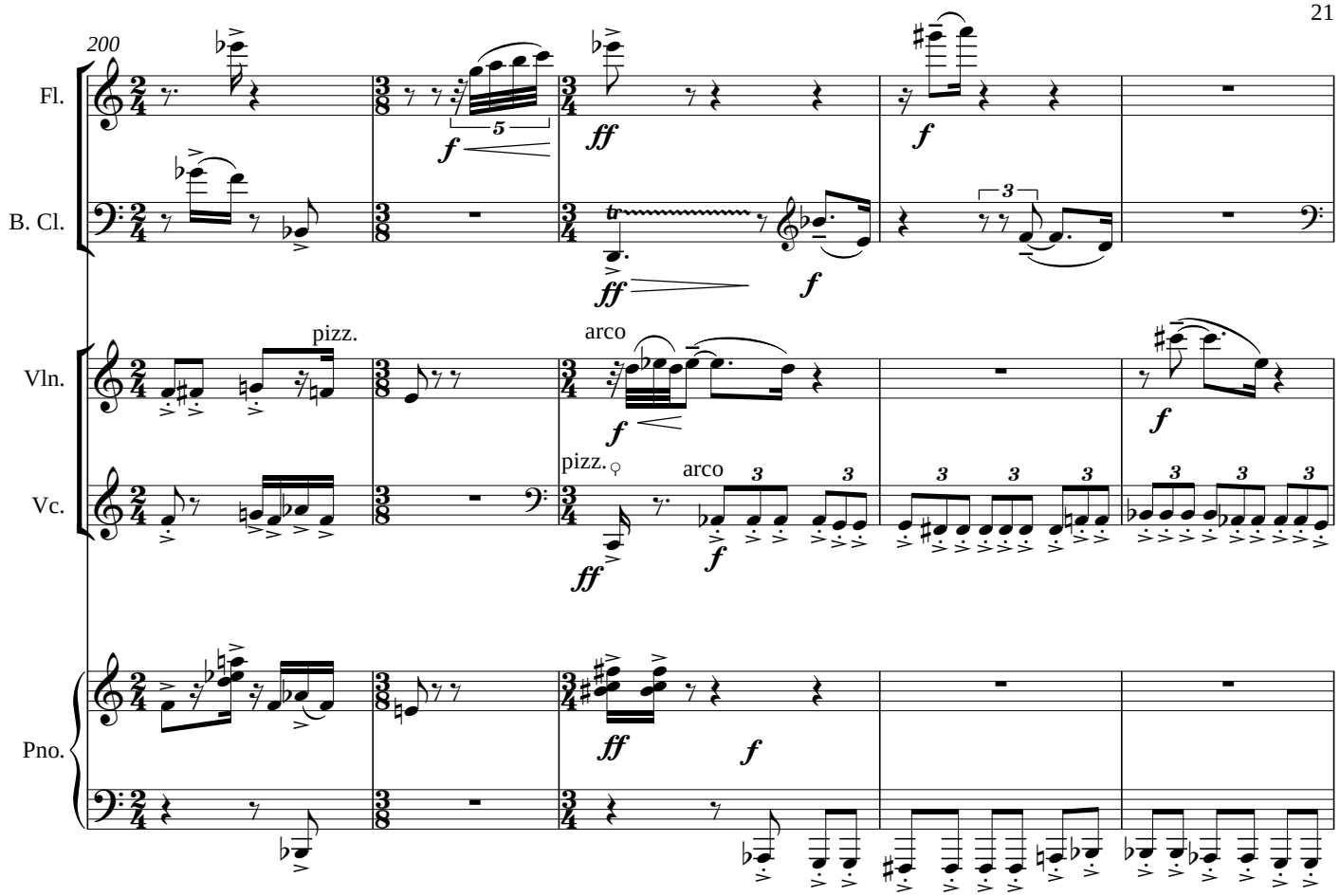
ff
(8)
8vb
L
197
(8)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Pno.
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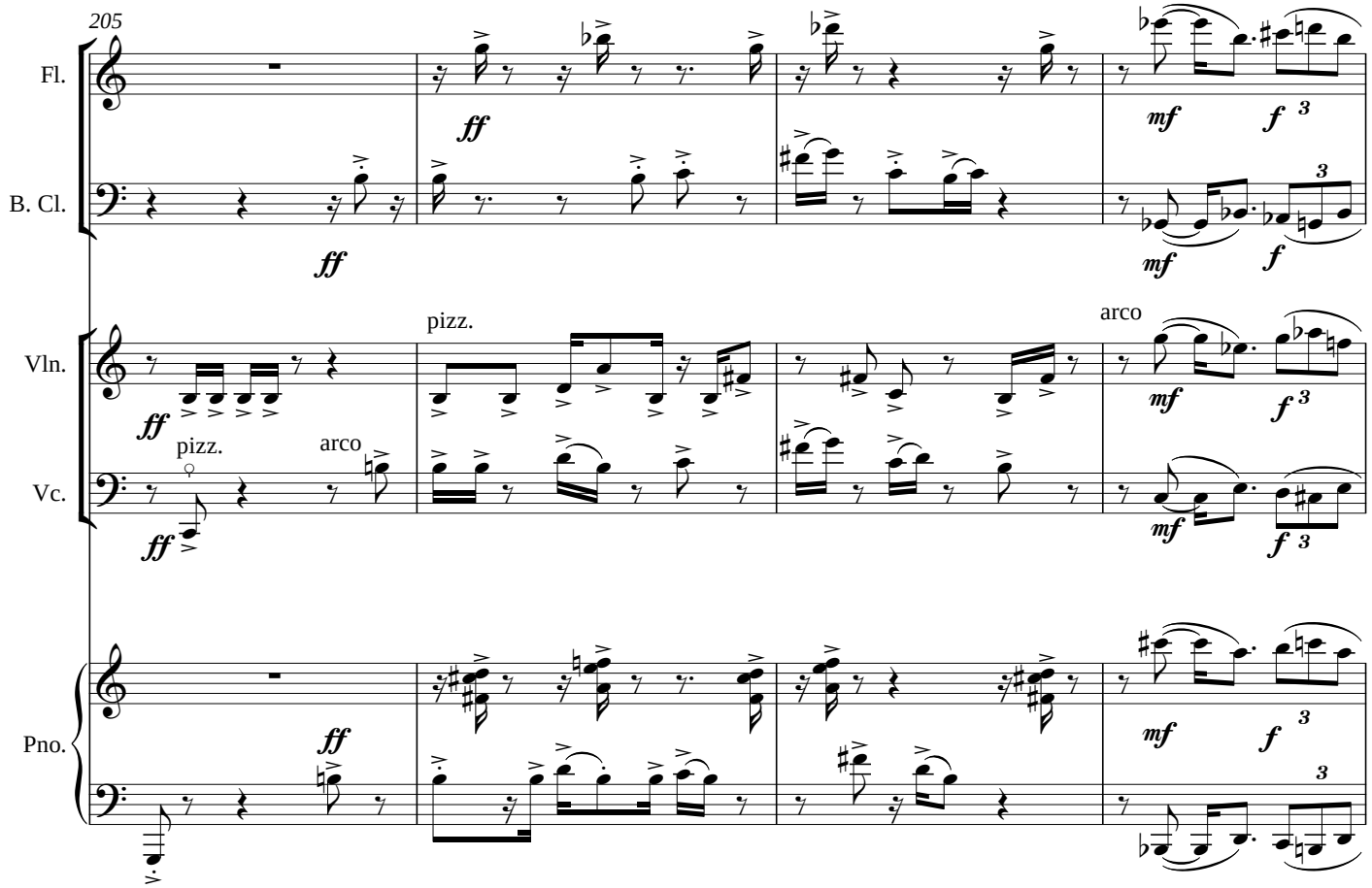
arco
pizz.
arco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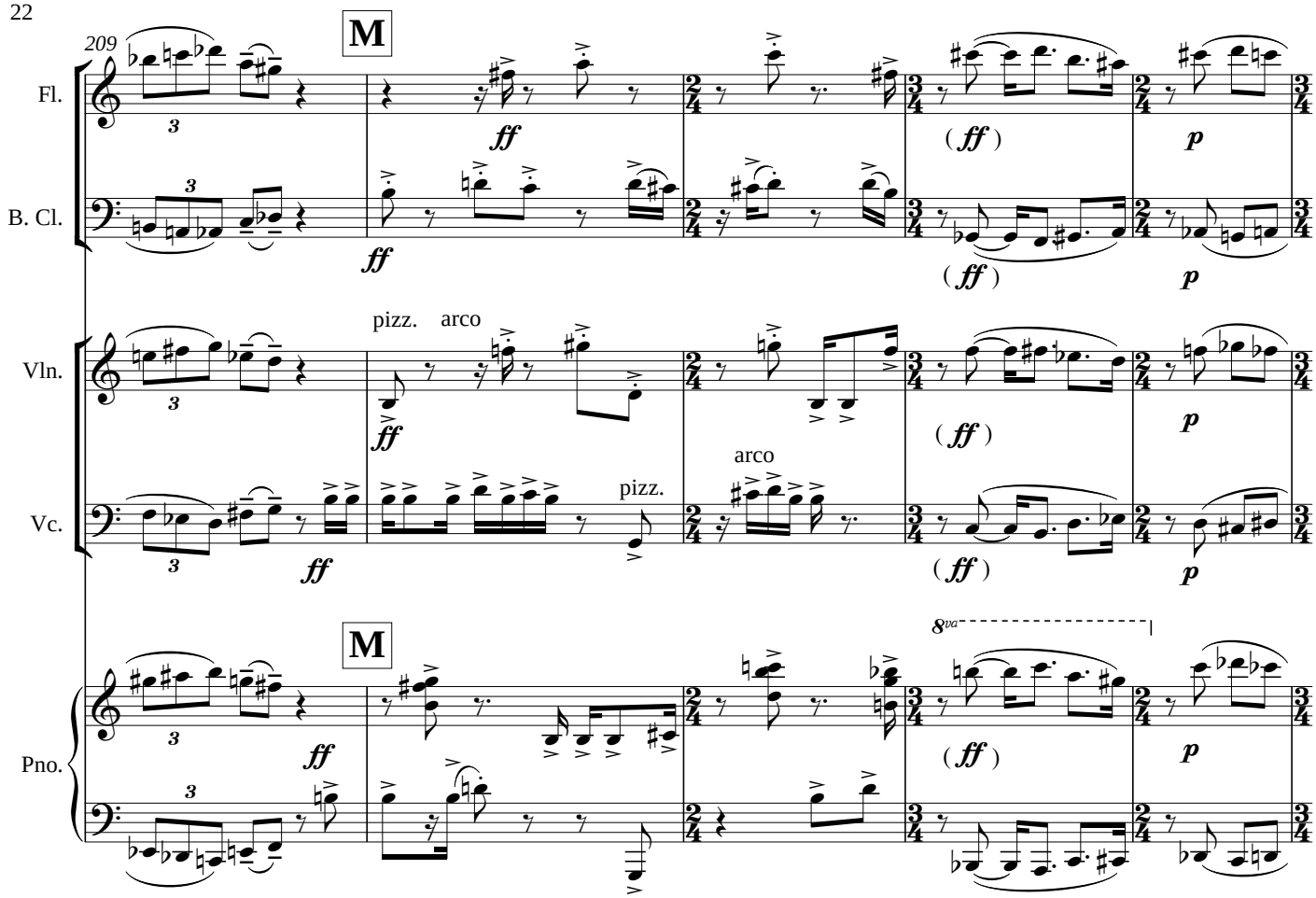
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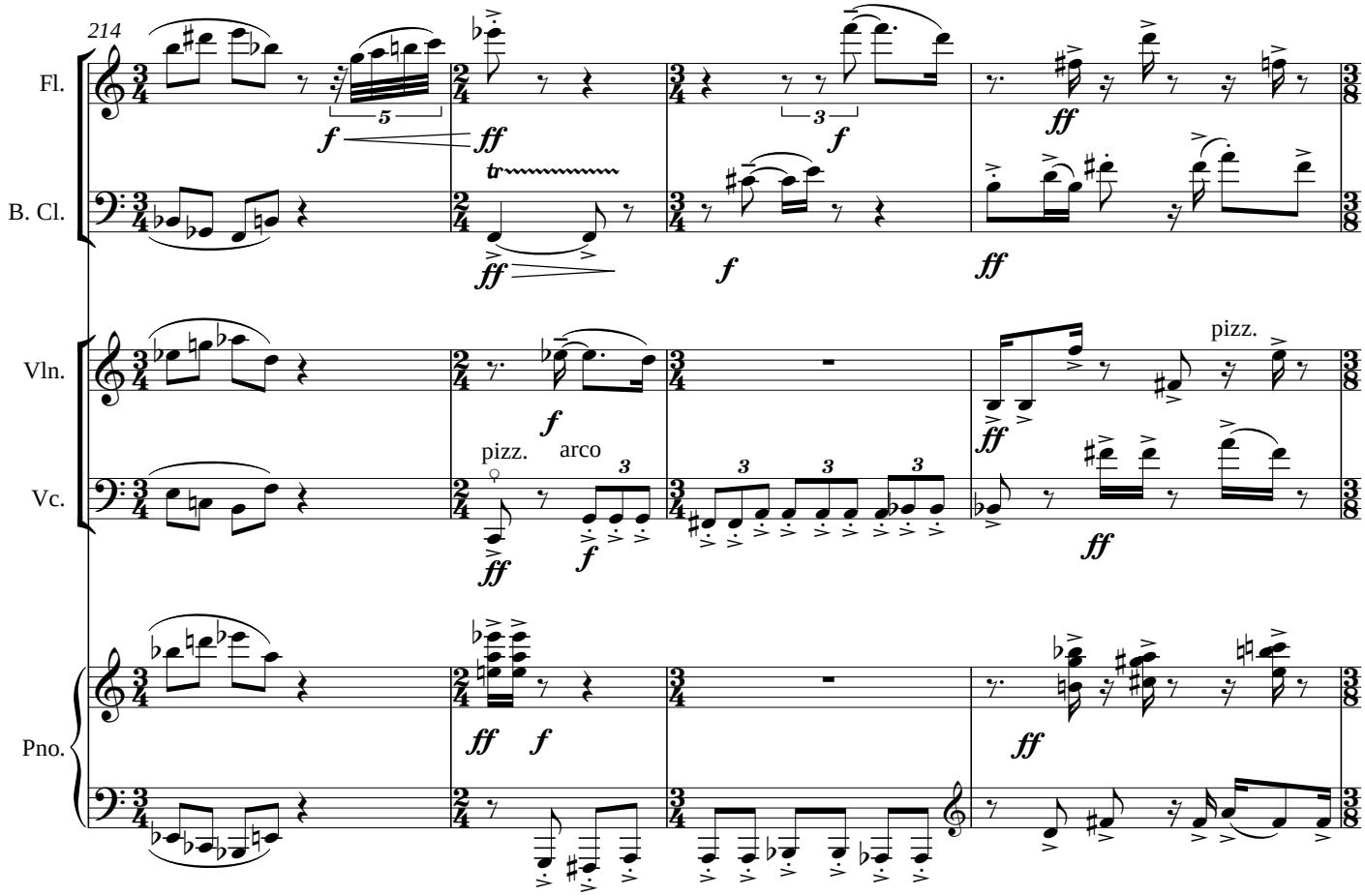
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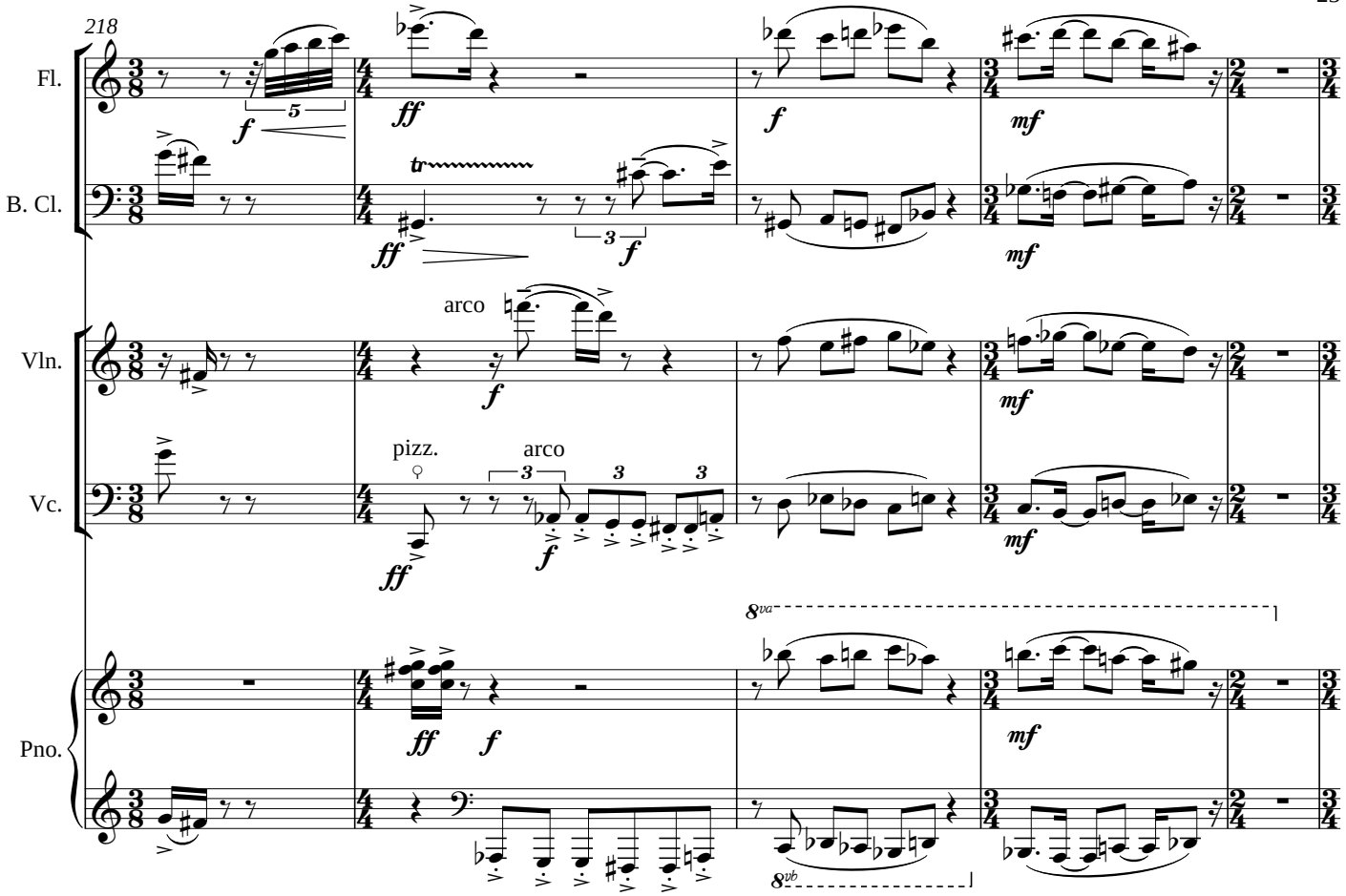
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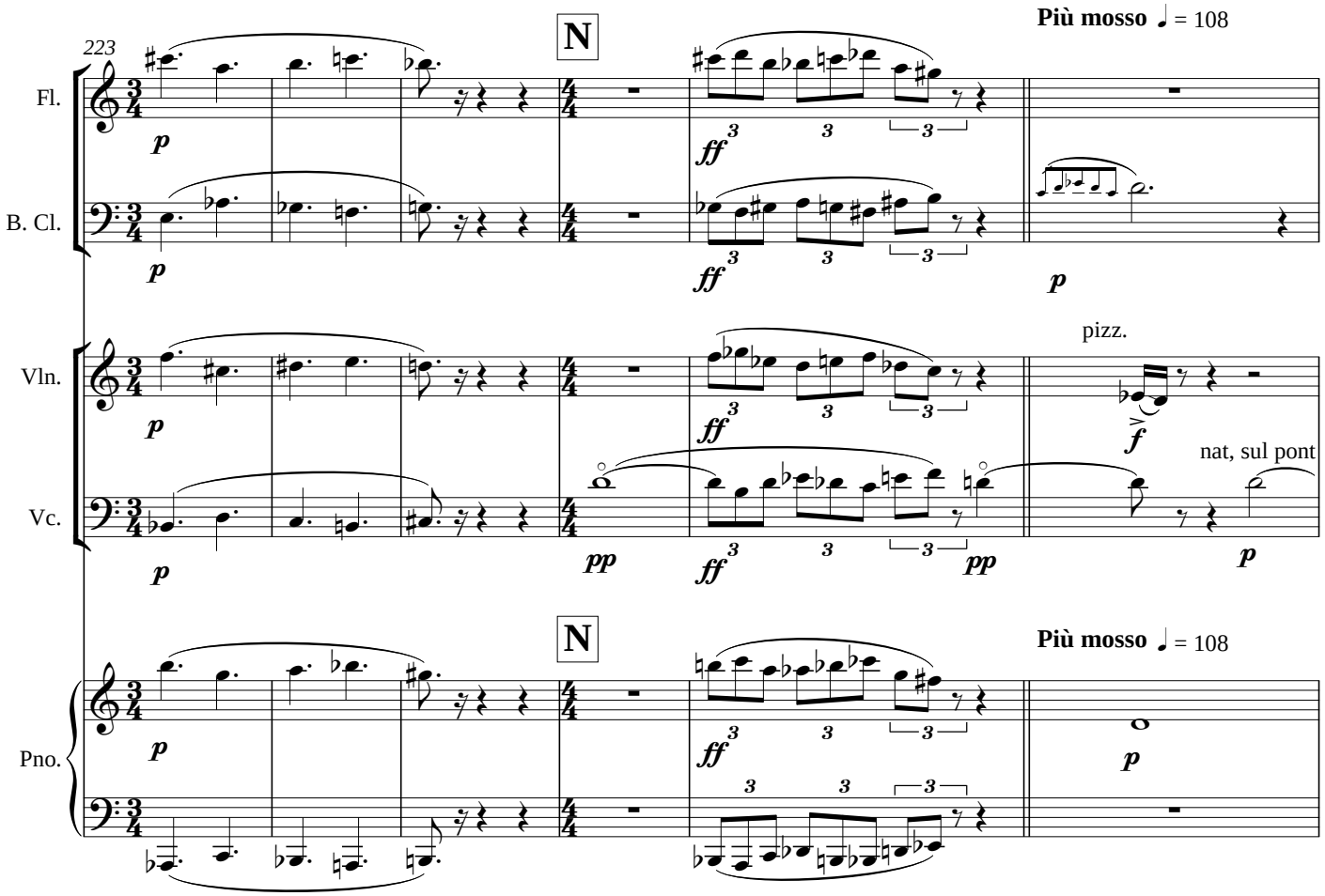
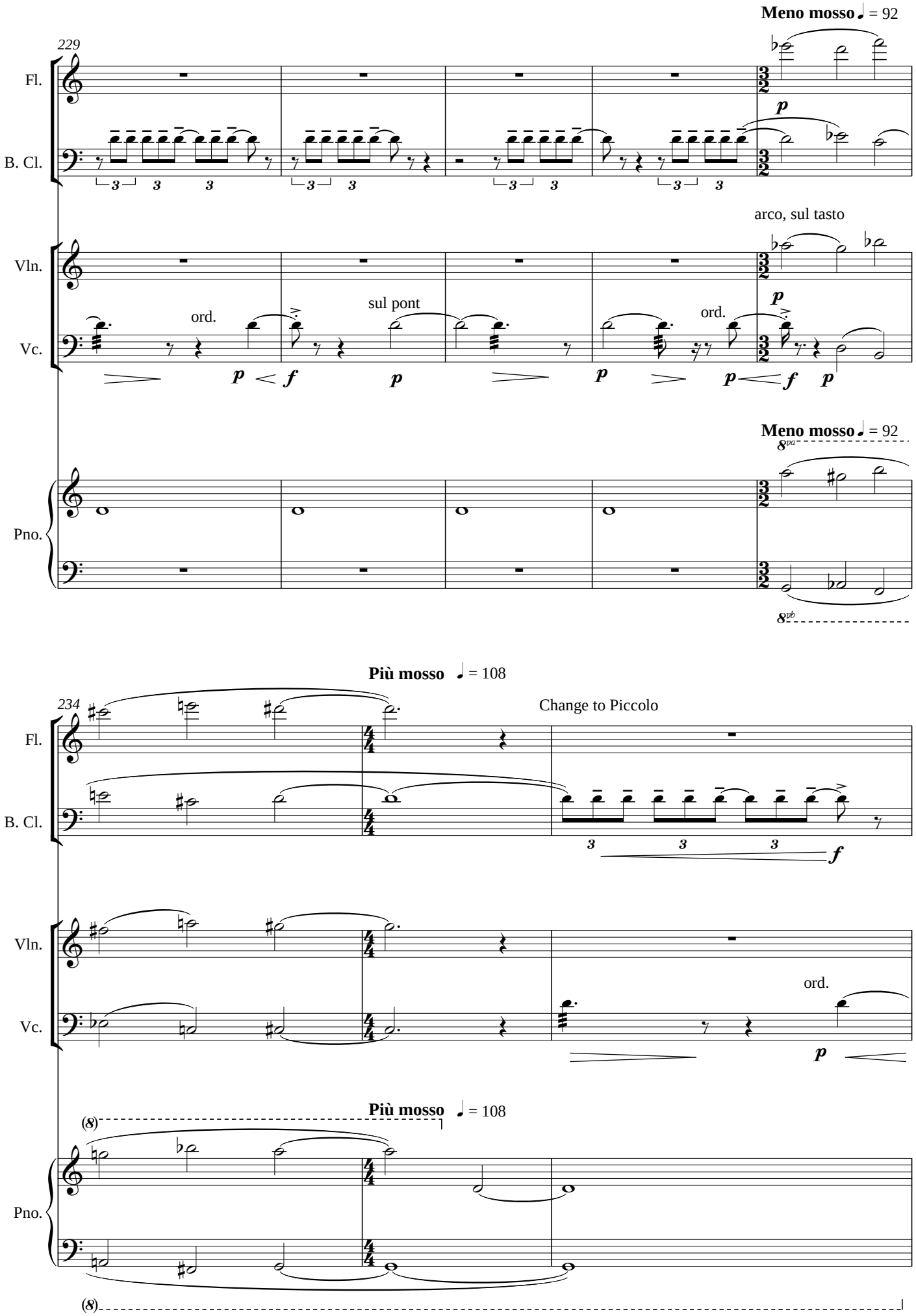
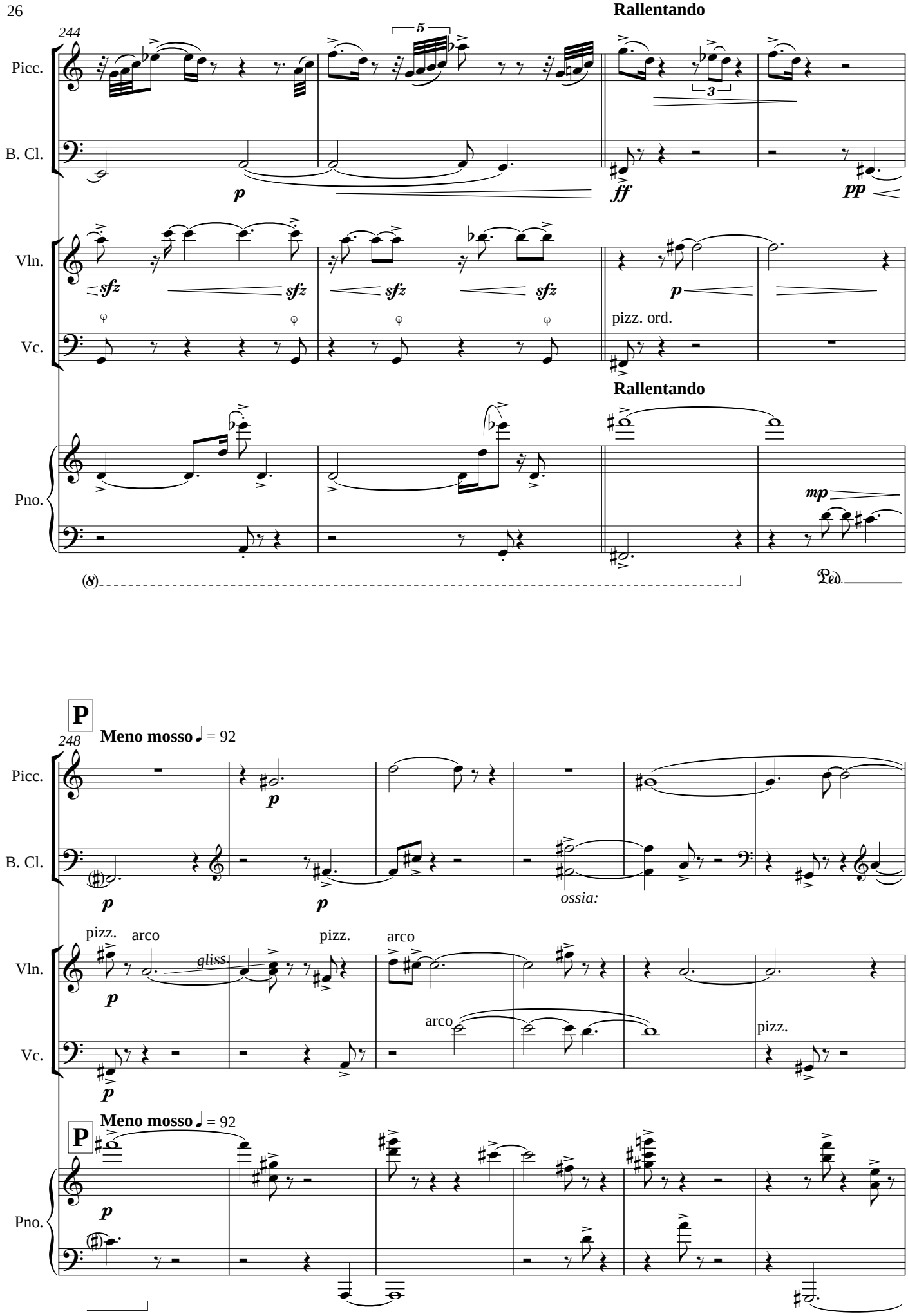
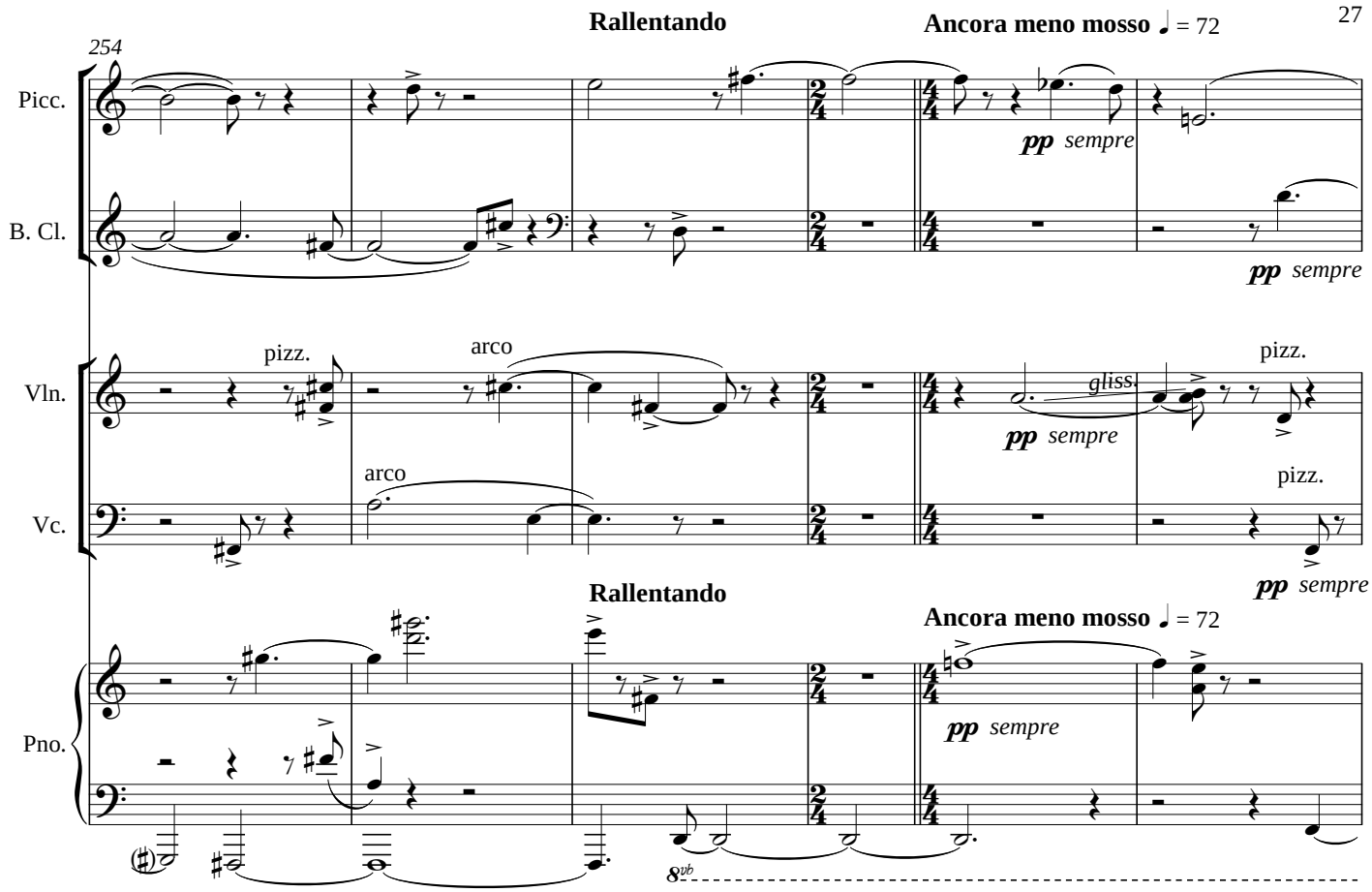
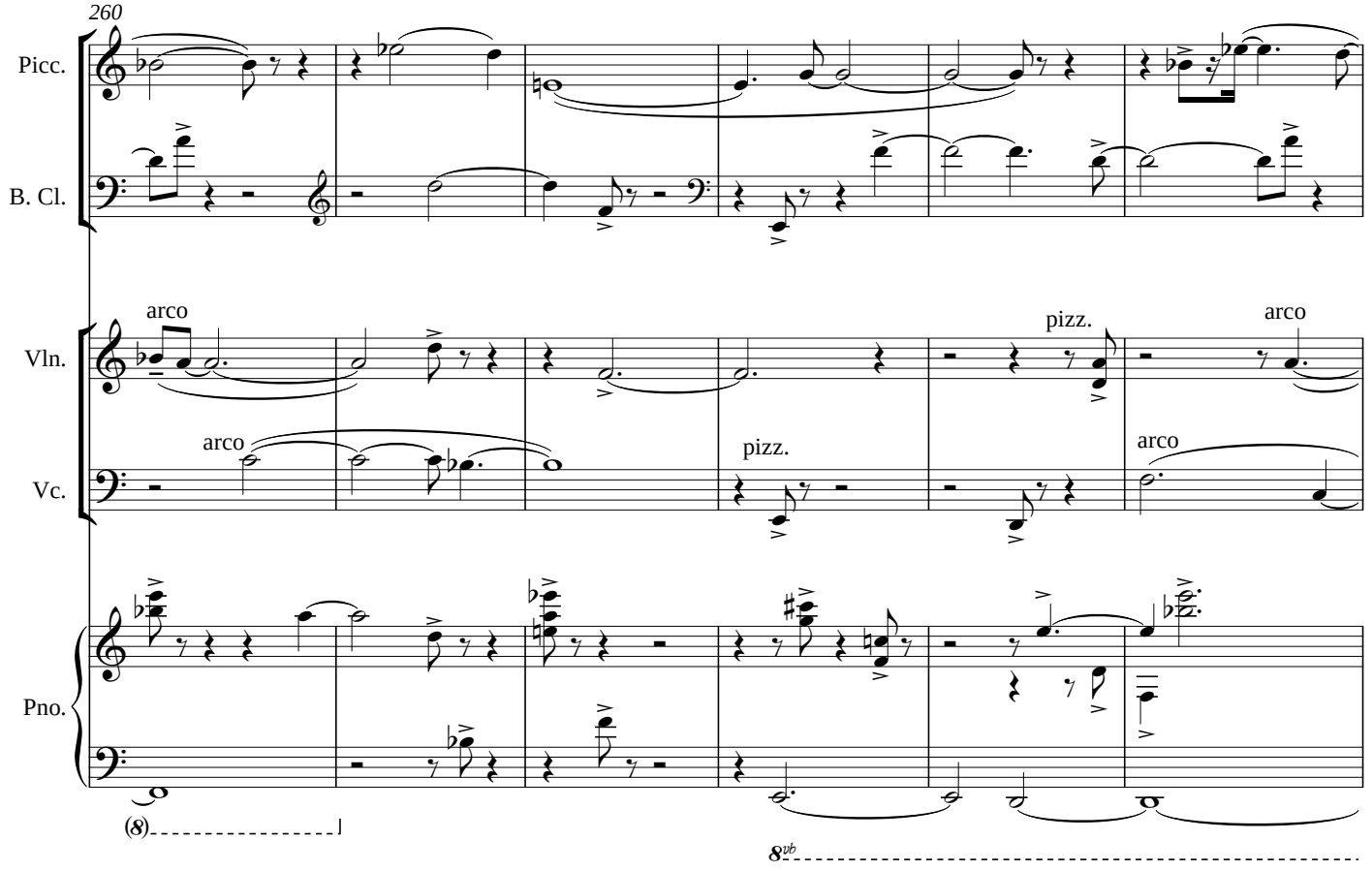

223
N
Più mosso ♩ = 108
Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pizz.
nat, sul pont
N
Più mosso ♩ = 108

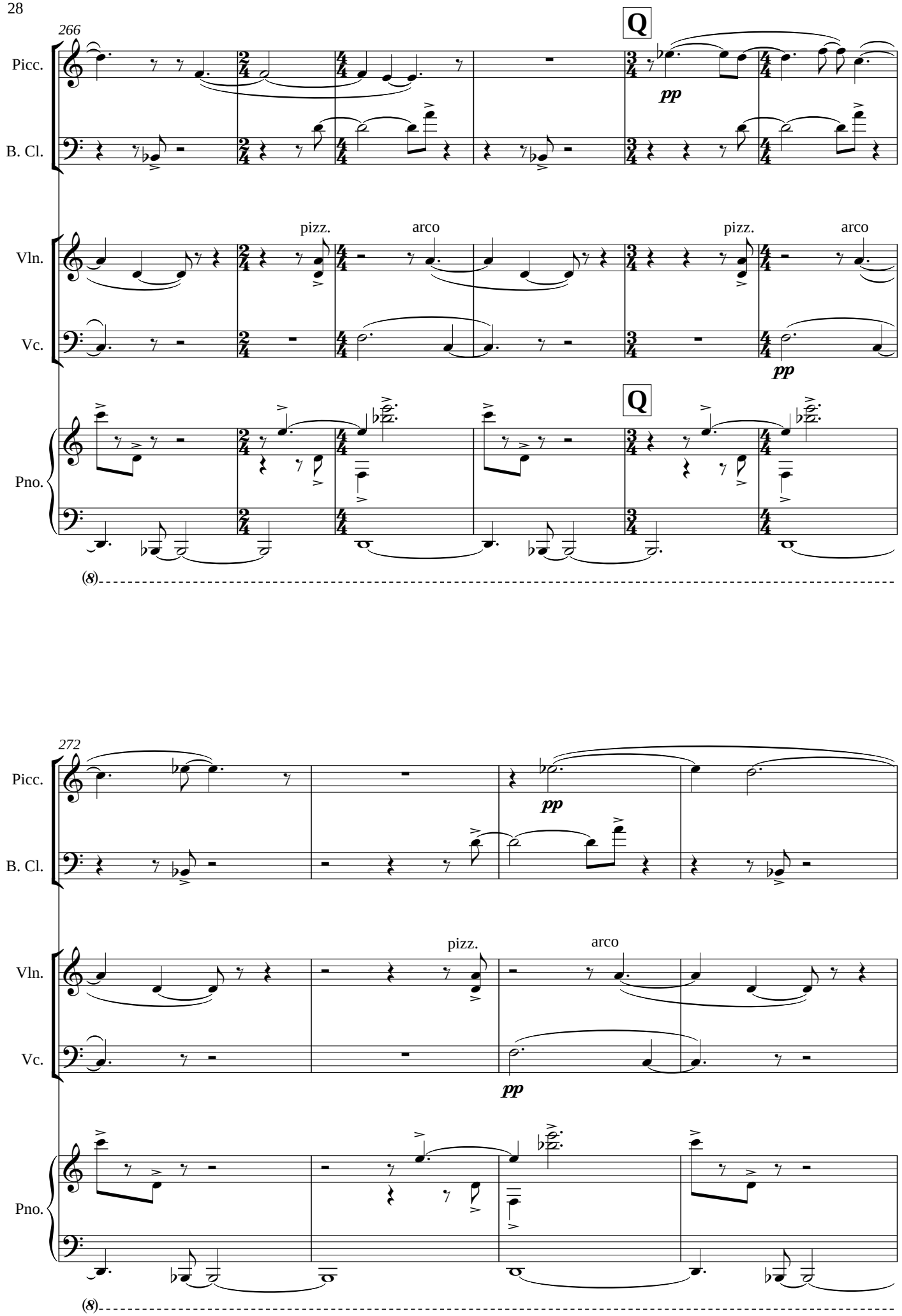

Meno mosso ♩ = 92
229
Fl.
B. Cl.
arco, sul tasto
Vln.
Vc.
ord.
sul pont
ord.
Meno mosso ♩ = 92
Pno.
Più mosso ♩ = 108
234
Change to Piccolo
Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
ord.
Più mosso ♩ = 108
Pno.

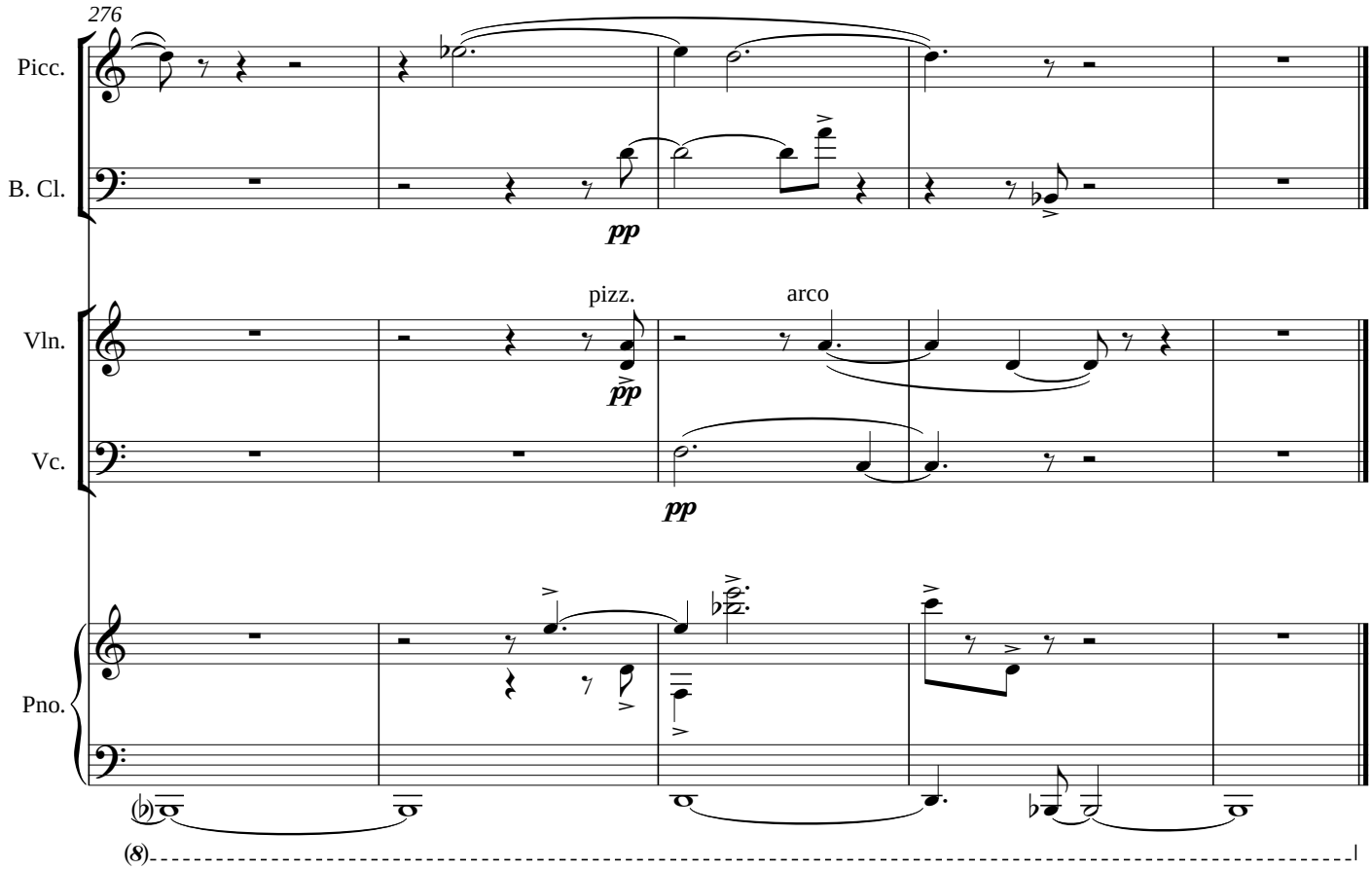
237
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
sul pont
ord.
O
240
Piccolo
arco, ord.
pizz.
8vb


Rallentando
244
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pizz. ord.
Rallentando
(8)
Ped.
P
Meno mosso ♩ = 92
248
ossia:
pizz.
arco
gliss.
Meno mosso ♩ = 92


Rallentando
Ancora meno mosso ♩ = 72
254
Picc.
B. Cl.
pp sempre
pp sempre
Vln.
Vc.
pizz.
arco
arco
gliss.
pp sempre
pizz.
pizz.
pp sempre
Rallentando
Ancora meno mosso ♩ = 72
Pno.
pp sempre
8vb


260
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
arco
arco
pizz.
pizz.
arco
arco
Pno.
(8)
8vb


266
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
Q
pp
pizz.
arco
(8)
272
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pp
pizz.
arco
(8)


276
Picc.
B. Cl.
pp
pizz.
arco
Vln.
Vc.
pp
Pno.
(8)